

No 61,753

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

Living in style  
A kind of living room:  
four artists tackle a  
problem space  
for Spectrum  
The old...  
Friday Page looks at the  
big new business of  
old folk's homes  
...rugged cross  
Philip Howard speaks up  
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Cross of Yeshu  
Downhill...  
John Hennessy and  
David  
Miller report on the  
men's downhill skiing at  
the Winter Olympics



...uphill  
Nicholas Ashford studies  
form for the runners in  
the non-Presidential  
races

## \$220,760 for girl in birth error

Johanna Mitchell, aged four, who suffered brain damage before birth because of a hospital mistake, has been awarded damages totalling \$220,760 with interest. She cannot walk, speak or learn language. Page 3

## \$192m extra aid for NCB

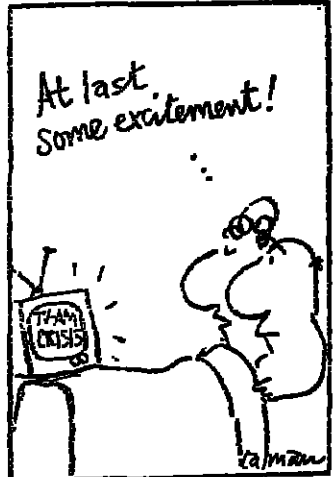
The Government has given an extra grant of \$192m to the National Coal Board for the current financial year and may have to give it a further \$80m to cover its losses. Page 15

## Kohl at bay

Chancellor Kohl and Herr Manfred Wörner, the Defence Minister, came under bitter opposition attack in Parliament over the Kiesling affair. Page 7

## Punjab halted

Sikh agitators halted most of Punjab state with an eight-hour strike, enforced in many cases at swordpoint. Page 5



## More aid urged

The funding of citizens advice bureaux should be increased by £1m, an independent review team recommends. Page 3

## Olympics open

The Yugoslav President performed the ceremonial opening of the fourteenth Winter Olympics at Sarajevo. Christopher Dean, the ice dancer, carried the flag for Britain. Page 22 and back page

## Leader page 13

Letters: On summit diplomacy, from Mr J. Amery, MP; marriage, from Canon G. B. Bentley; rural heritage, from Mr P. V. Addyman

## Leading articles: Lebanon

GCHQ: Anglo-Argentine relations. Features, pages 8, 12

Where the Whips are wrong on select committees: Russia's fresh doubts about the Korean jet disaster; a statue called Stefanik; The Times Profile: Rosamund Lehmann

High rollers, pages 1-4  
Cable and satellite TV: A four-page Special Report on Britain's entertainment and communications revolution

Books, page 9  
Michael Ratcliffe reviews *The Paper Men* by William Golding; other fiction includes Leopoldo Alas, Rose Tremain, a first novel from India, and crime of the month

Obituary, page 14  
Rabbi Schoenfeld, Captain Norman Walter

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# British troops quit Beirut but Italy and France remain

● The 100-man British contingent to the Lebanon multinational peacekeeping force withdrew at short notice yesterday to a Royal Naval auxiliary offshore  
● In the Commons, senior Conservatives pressed Sir Geoffrey Howe to take a diplomatic initiative in Lebanon to prevent more serious developments  
● Following President Reagan's directive, the USS battleship New Jersey bombarded Muslim positions in the hills behind Beirut with more than 100 salvos

● France and Italy appear to have no intention to withdraw their troops just yet. They both want the UN to take over (page 6)  
● The Soviet Union is sending Mr Geidar Aliyev, one of the most dynamic Politburo members, to Damascus to capitalize on American discomfiture (page 6)  
● The Israeli Cabinet was summoned into emergency session to review the situation. No decisions were made and the ministers reconvene on Sunday (page 6)

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

With scarcely any warning and without making any arrangements for the evacuation of British residents from Beirut, Britain withdrew its tiny military contingent of the multinational force from Lebanon yesterday, handing over its headquarters at only a few hours notice to pro-Gemayel units of the fragmented Lebanese army, and then flying its men out to the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Reliant in the Mediterranean on board three American helicopters.

The final decision to withdraw the 100-strong contingent from Lebanon was apparently made in London on Tuesday night after President Reagan had let it be known that he was pulling the Marines out of Beirut.

Orders went out immediately to Lieutenant Colonel Peter Wootley to abandon his headquarters in the suburb of Hadeth to Lebanese troops. At 11.30 yesterday morning, the 16/5th Queen's Royal Lancers drove their Ferret armoured vehicles, jeeps and trucks out of the tobacco factory complex where they are based and headed for the port of Jounieh 12 miles north of the capital.

A few minutes afterwards, a Lebanese soldier answered the telephone at the heavily fortified building that the British had just left, saying that the former base was under heavy shelling.

Some Orwellian language surrounded the sudden British departure. British officials kept referring to the withdrawal as "redeployment" to an off-shore situation "as if the British troops were soon going to return to peacekeeping duties in

territory 16 miles away on the slopes to the Bekaa Valley. Muslim troops of the Lebanese army's Sixth Brigade, including its Shia Muslim commanding officer, announced yesterday that they were defecting to the side of the militias, while throughout west Beirut, snipers continued to operate in three separate residential areas.

President Gemayel, reported stunned by President Reagan's decision to withdraw the Marines to the Sixth Fleet - the word "redeployment" has carried no weight here - remained silent for the third consecutive day, confined for some of the time to the shellproof bunker beneath his palace at Baabda.

Many of the thousand or so British residents in Lebanon live in west Beirut and so far they have been given no advice by the Embassy to evacuate the city. The British troops at Hadeth, who were on the wrong side of the front line from the west of the city, would have been of little use in such an operation, should it prove necessary.

British residents here are well used to the familiar dangers of shelling and gunmen, but in two days, the Embassy, all of whose telephone lines have now failed, has done no more than tell British citizens to keep "a low profile" and remain indoors whenever possible - not the advice perhaps best suited in the midst of a civil war.

In fact, a few British troops are still in Lebanon, guarding the armoured vehicles and jeeps

Continued on back page, col 6

## Reagan steps up strategy of naval bombardment

From Christopher Thomas, Washington



Mr Weinberger: Detailed plan for withdrawal

President Reagan's policy of stepping up bombardment of Syrian-backed positions, with increased naval and air fire, began yesterday morning when the battleship New Jersey opened up on targets firing on the American Ambassador's residence in east Beirut.

Once the 1,500 Marines are off Lebanon soil, the United States will feel free to continue the attacks, so long as President Gemayel slings to power.

The first 500 Marines will be out of Beirut within 30 days and the remainder will be withdrawn "depending on the situation on the ground", Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, will submit a detailed plan to President Reagan today or tomorrow.

Having ordered the Marines to the haven of naval ships close to the coast, Mr Reagan has presented the real possibility of stepping up military action in support of Mr Gemayel's embattled government. Many administration officials believe, however, that he may not survive long enough for that to happen.

Under the new rules of engagement, US troops can return fire if Beirut is under attack - an assertive military role compared with current rules limiting action to the defence of the multinational forces.

It puts America squarely on the side of President Gemayel

while he attempts to fulfil his pledge to form a government of reconciliation. It is the first time that the Administration has had to reverse so decisively one of its key foreign policies.

The new battle orders were announced by Mr Reagan in a written statement to reporters after his arrival at the Point Magu naval air station near Santa Barbara, California, where the President was beginning what is intended to be a five-day holiday.

His absence from Washington has been severely criticized by Democrats. Some of his own senior aides counselled against staying away, but he has proved typically strong-willed about his holiday time.

For such a sweeping policy statement, it was unusual for

the President not to appear in person, or on television. Less than a week ago, he said: "If we get out, that means the end of Lebanon... the end of any ability on our part to bring about an overall peace in the Middle East... a pretty disastrous result for us worldwide."

According to Mr Reagan, President Gemayel actually asked for the withdrawal of the Marines to ships offshore. Some Administration officials suggested, however, that the plan was sold to Mr Gemayel because it offered him the critical artillery support he felt he needed.

Mr Reagan's new approach was prepared and agreed last week - before the Lebanon Cabinet resigned - out of the belief that the Marines were serving no useful military or political purpose.

Announcing that America could fire on Syrian-held positions to defend Mr Gemayel's sagging army, he said: "Those who conduct these attacks will no longer have sanctuary from which to bombard Beirut at will. We will stand firm to deter those who seek to influence Lebanon's future by intimidation."

There were signs of relief in Congress yesterday. The two parties are glad to be rid of the immediate issue of the Marine presence, which represented an acute political problem for both.



Ready to go: US marines cheering the news

## Howe urged to take diplomatic initiative

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Senior Conservative MPs yesterday pressed Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to take the diplomatic initiative on Lebanon, after Commons statements on the withdrawal of the British contingent from Beirut.

But Sir Geoffrey, who said that there was no immediate prospect of a return of the troops from HMS Reliant, told the House: "In the last resort, it is only those people in that country who can find their own salvation."

He also told one of his own backbenchers that it was precisely because of anxiety that there should be no bloodshed and slaughter in Beirut that the Government had agreed to contribute to the multinational force.

Nevertheless, the vacuum left by the withdrawal and the collapse of British credibility and influence were repeatedly and forcefully emphasized.

Mr Francis Pym, the former Foreign Secretary, and Mr Edward du Cann, chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, both asked about alternative government policy. Mr Pym said, "It is vital now

that a major diplomatic effort is put in train to try to prevent any more serious events taking place."

Mr du Cann demanded: "What policies are we now going to adopt? What initiatives are we going to take, either in conjunction with our allies or through the United Nations?"

Further to the right of the party, Mr Julian Amery (Brighton, Pavilion) and Mr Eldon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds) warned of the threat to Western credibility and influence in the Middle East after the withdrawal. The Foreign Secretary said that there should be no erosion of western influence.

He also appeared to endorse the repeated suggestion from his own side that the American element of the multinational force had been too partisan in its actions.

Mr Denis Healey, who welcomed the belated withdrawal, said the decision represented the collapse of US policy, yet President Reagan threatened even wider and more indiscriminate intervention.

## TV-am's future hangs on acceptance of job cuts

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The future of the commercial breakfast television station TV-am now hangs on last-ditch talks with the journalists' and technicians' unions over up to 60 redundancies.

A three-and-a-half-hour meeting of the company's board yesterday decided that a £2m rescue package will not go ahead without the redundancies, which have been rejected by the National Union of Journalists and the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians.

Without the money the company, which has already told union officials that it cannot guarantee staff wages

from last week, seems certain to be the first commercial television station to go into liquidation.

Talks between representatives of the NUJ, which has been asked for 20 redundancies, and the ACTAT, which has rejected a request for 40 job cuts, resumed last night and were due to continue today.

There was some optimism that a settlement may be reached with the NUJ involving 15 unfilled journalistic posts, but the rift with the ACTAT, which is due to meet tomorrow, is thought to be more serious.

Behind the scenes, page 2

## Safety of GCHQ 'ensured by ban'

By Philip Webster  
Political Reporter

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, firmly refused to give ground yesterday to both Conservative and Labour critics of the Government's decision to ban trade union membership at the communications headquarters at Cheltenham.

During more than two hours of intense questioning from the Commons Select Committee on Employment, he repeatedly emphasized that the approach taken by the Government towards ensuring freedom from disruption at the GCHQ, and preventing staff from being subject to pressures to take part in industrial action, was the only way of meeting its full objectives and the "safest and surest" way of doing so.

Although there was to be a further meeting with the unions, and there would be no purpose in having it "if our minds were totally and irrevocably closed", Sir Geoffrey said it would be very difficult to dislodge the Government from its present position.

Members of the committee detected no hints from his uncompromising performance that he had any intention of changing his stance.

The Foreign Secretary revealed that during the day of action in March 1981, parts of GCHQ were "virtually shut down" and that in 1980 informal attempts were made to get a no-strike or no-disruption agreement at GCHQ.

He added that proposals for action along the lines taken by the Government were considered by ministers, including Lord Carrington, then the Foreign Secretary, in 1981 and 1982. The Times reported on Monday that Lord Carrington had no recollection of any such proposal.

Yesterday's hearing opened with allegations from Mr John Gorat, Conservative MP for Hendon North, that Conservative MPs were being "nobled" by Government business managers seeking to manipulate the inquiry.

Mr Gorat was angry about the decision of the Foreign Office to ban Mr Jack Hart, the leading union official at GCHQ, from giving evidence and which he alleged was interference by Government.

Sir Geoffrey made no comment on the allegation of Government pressure but defended the ban on Mr Hart, which also covers Mr Peter Marychurch, the director of GCHQ.

Sir Geoffrey and Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, who also gave evidence, were adamant throughout that the Government's action was not part of a wider campaign to introduce similar measures outside the field of security and intelligence.

GCHQ gag, page 2  
Leading article, page 13

## Cancer 'key' found in cells

By Thomson Prentice  
Science Correspondent

Scientists have made one of the most significant advances in recent years in understanding how cancer is caused. A new discovery, announced yesterday, is likely to influence cancer research internationally, though immediate clinical applications are discounted.

A team led by the Imperial Cancer Fund in London in collaboration with scientists in Israel and the United States, has found a new link between hormone-like substances called growth factors, which are necessary for normal cell growth, and cancer producing genes, known as oncogenes.

The team's findings are published in today's issue of the scientific journal, *Nature*. An editorial in the magazine says the research is "as dramatic as it will be important for research on normal and abnormal growth of cells" and describes the work as "another leap forward in understanding the basis of cancer".

The discovery was described yesterday as "very significant" by the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, which is usually very cautious in its comments. "The implications for new basic research studies are enormous," according to the ICRF scientists.

Growth factors are small proteins which act as "keys" to turn on the normal growth of cells by fitting into "locks" on the surface of cells. Different types of cells, such as brain or liver cells, can have different sets of locks and keys to control their growth.

The new research suggests that a virus may be able to bypass the need for a key and can deliver a continuous message to grow with unlimited power.

It suggests that a defective "lock" is part of the mechanism whereby an animal virus can produce leukaemia in chickens.

The discovery is direct consequence of advances made by the same ICRF team last July, which focused attention on the relationship between oncogenes and cancer. The team has been led by Dr Michael Waterfield, head of the molecular biology department.

The ICRF considered the work important enough to invest £500,000 last April into an oncogene research laboratory.

Yesterday Dr Waterfield, aged 42, was in Israel where he discussed the findings with scientists at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, particularly Dr Joseph Schlessinger, the chief Israeli collaborator in the research. He has decided to avoid personal publicity following publication of the research.

A spokesman for the Weizmann Institute said: "The discovery is seen here as very

Continued on back page, col 6

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## Queen among mourners for Duke of Beaufort

The Queen and other members of the Royal Family led hundreds of mourners at a funeral service at Badminton yesterday for the Duke of Beaufort.

The service for the tenth Duke, who died on Sunday aged 83, was marked by his lack of ceremony. Members of the Royal Family stood alongside huntsmen and estate workers at the graveside as he was laid to rest in a tiny churchyard after the parish church service.

The Queen and the Queen Mother went forward to comfort the frail, Dowager Duchess, aged 87, as she left the graveside on the arm of the new Duke, David Somerset, aged 55, a London art dealer.

The village of Badminton was in mourning and more than 250 crowded the tiny church of St Michael and All Saints, which adjoins Badminton House. Only the baying of the

Beaufort Hunt broke the silence at the start of the service, conducted by the Duke's chaplain, the rev Thomas Thomson.

At the Duke's request the service consisted only of three of his favourite hymns and the 121st psalm. There was no address. It was also at his request that so many of his estate workers, tenants and friends were present.

In spite of his many military connections, there were no uniforms inside the church,

except for those of community Police Constable Michael Earl, from the near by village of Acton Turville, a close friend for many years, and Trumpeter Sergeant Alan Webb, of the Royal Gloucester Hussars.

After the half-hour service the coffin was carried to the adjoining churchyard. It was draped with the Duke's personal standard while a similar flag fluttered at half-mast above the main house.

The main funeral party was led by the Dowager Duchess on the arm of Mr Somerset, second cousin to the Duke.

The Queen and the Queen Mother were followed by the Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips. All the Royal Family were dressed in black, the Queen in a long black coat and black leather boots, the Princess of Wales with a wide-brimmed stiff hat, three-quarter

length coat and matching skirt, and Princess Anne with a black cap in a hunting style.

Also in the royal party were the Duke and Duchess of Kent and Prince and Princess Michael of Kent.

As the trumpeter played Reveille, the Duke was buried alongside his parents and grandparents. The Dowager Duchess then walked forward a few paces to stand alone as the Last Post was sounded.

Seconds later the Queen and Queen Mother went forward to comfort her.

Outside the church more than 300 mourners were in a queue to hear the service relayed by loudspeaker. To them and all the villagers the Duke was affectionately known as Master because of his long association with hunting.

Memorial services will be held in Bristol, Gloucester and London.



## £100m drive to automate post offices but some to close

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

More than £100m is to be spent by the Post Office in the next decade on automating its counters in 9,000 offices but this will take place in parallel with a closure programme which could affect 1,000 outlets.

Mr Ronald Dearing, chairman of the corporation, outlining details of the plans yesterday denied that there was any "hit list" and emphasized that no decision has been made on the number to be closed. That would depend on local conditions, he claimed. The most vulnerable will be in the inner-city areas where mobility of population away from city centres has left a greater density of urban post offices.

"But we intend the change to be gradual and customers can be assured of 95 per cent of the network for the next three years, within a framework of action to reduce costs and win new business. There will be no departure from existing criteria for the provision of post offices," Mr Dearing said.

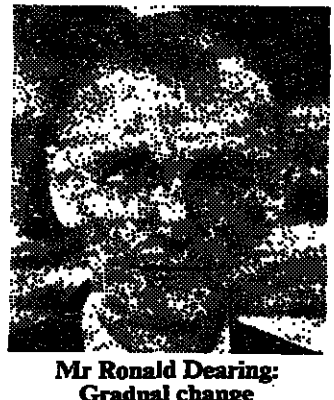
The 5 per cent of the 22,000 Post Office network not assured by the chairman amounts to about 1,200 offices. The corporation has completed a study which showed that 1,600 of the 9,533 town sub-postoffices could be considered for closure. About 269 main offices are believed to be marginal in their commercial performance with 172 making a loss.

The corporation is confident that the modernization programme will attract new counter business particularly banks and building societies. Between 20-30 leading financial institutions are in discussions with the Post Office about using counter services which provide about £500m revenue each year.

A second programme for refurbishment will run over the next three years at a cost of £25m. That will be directed at the main offices.

The first stage of the automation programme will cost £20m and will involve installing electronic equipment in 1,200 stations beginning at the end of the year. This programme will include installation of automatic teller machines for the customers of Girobank and other banking and financial institutions.

A total of 15,000 post offices will eventually be automated.



Mr Ronald Dearing: Gradual change

## Productivity before pay, rail unions told

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

British Rail's three unions have been told there must be agreement on outstanding issues in the long-running productivity saga before there can be any discussions on an annual pay increase, which is due from April.

A meeting is to be held shortly between British Rail and leaders of the three unions to discuss elements of the six-point productivity plan still not resolved after more than four years of negotiations.

British Rail is insisting on union agreement to the productivity items because they are central to its going into profit by 1985 as planned.

Areas in which it wants agreement include one-man operation of freight trains, the easing of conditions for single manning of passenger trains, and introduction of the "trainman concept", which opens up a promotion structure to allow guards to become drivers.

Mr Bob Reid, British Rail's chairman, has painted an optimistic picture of the industry's future but he has made it clear that the unions will have to agree to job losses of up to 20,000 over three years.

There is agreement from train drivers on flexible rostering and one-man operation of the trains on the Bedford-St Pancras commuter line and British Rail is satisfied with the development of the open station experiment under which tickets are checked on trains by guards.

The unions have submitted claims for a "substantial" pay rise from April and a reduction in hours.

## Irish referendum on voting rights for British

The Government of the Irish Republic proposes to hold a referendum in June to alter the constitution to allow 25,000 resident British citizens' full voting rights.

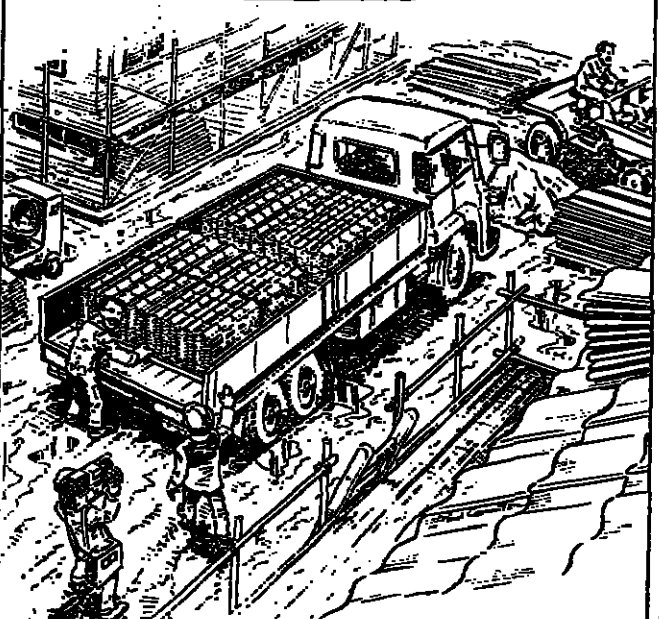
The decision was made after the Supreme Court in Dublin decided yesterday that a Bill passed by the Dail and Senate

## Planned M1 link will be dual carriageway

The M1-A1 link, still subject to a planning inquiry, is to be upgraded to dual carriageway for all 45 miles after forecasts of heavy lorry traffic between the industrial Midlands and East Coast ports. MPs were told yesterday. It is expected to be built between 1986 and 1989, at cost just over £100m.

## Video comes out on top.

Number 3 in a series



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The Marley Roof Tile Company, always on the lookout for ways to improve their service still further, have just commissioned a complete video production and editing suite for their HQ in Sevenoaks, Kent.

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Cold comfort on a fenland farm: Mr Roger Juggins, Conservative chairman in Huntingdon, and Mrs Emily Blatch, Conservative leader of Cambridgeshire County Council (Photograph: Brian Harris)

## Fenland's frugal Tories rail at 'big spender' stigma

By Patricia Clough

In the flat, thrifty Fens, on windswept farms and in the country towns of Cambridgeshire, Conservatives are smarting at the injustice of the world, and of their own government in particular.

For 10 years, they say, they have practised the kind of careful Tory housekeeping that the Government wants from all local authorities, while neighbouring Labour-run councils continued to spend.

Yet for their pains, they get multi-pound penalties, the stigma of "overspenders" and now the threat of rate capping.

Last month, their long pent-up indignation exploded, with the revolt in the Commons by Mr Francis Pym and two other Cambridgeshire Tory MPs over the rate capping Bill.

Cambridgeshire has no big towns, no real poverty, no major ethnic or social problems. Unemployment is well below the national average, high-tech firms are springing up around Cambridge, Peterborough is rapidly developing as a new town, the ports of Harwich and Felixstowe are thriving on growing EEC trade, and the population is fast increasing.

There is a tradition, especially towards the poorer Fen country in the east, of independent-run local government and a frugality which the Tories themselves admit is hard to beat. Even Mr Robert James, the leader of the Conservatives in the county council, says: "I don't like too much politics." Four of the five Conservative MPs (the county's sixth is a Liberal) have safe majorities.

The result, for the past 10 years, has

been a Conservative-run county council led by Mrs Emily Blatch, which set itself the goal of radically reforming and reducing public spending.

"We had management consultants in" she told *The Times*. They asked us what we were really there for, what tasks we should do and what could be done more cheaply by others. We saved money by buying, for instance, legal and architectural services rather than having our own. We have privatized services such as school cleaning.

"We reduced our top management by 20 per cent and saved about £200,000 a year as a result. We have been cutting the bureaucracy to a purposeful minimum, assessing performances, trying to get better services - for example more home help - for the same price."

This policy backfired when the

Government brought in its system of spending targets and penalties to curb high-spending authorities. The targets were based on the authorities' levels in 1978-79 - when Cambridgeshire somewhat foolishly, Mrs Blatch admits, had undershot its own self-imposed limits by £4m.

Consequently, Cambridge's target was set low - lower even than the Government's own assessment of its needs. While those of the councils which had ignored the Government and refused to cut back were set higher. Now, Mrs Blatch says, the county council sees itself obliged to spend above its targets to keep the necessary minimum of services going.

For the ratepayers, this will mean an increase of 10 per cent on the rates, 5.6 per cent of which is needed simply to pay the penalty.

## Fleet Street men may rejoin union

By Barrie Clement

Labour Reporter

The rebel Fleet Street electricians have agreed in principle to return to the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication, and Plumbing Union provided a 20-year ban on their leader, Mr Sean Geraghty, is lifted and other conditions are met.

Mr Geraghty was barred from holding office in the electricians' union after leading a breakaway group of electricians, once numbered at 800, into the print union Sogat '82.

The electricians' union have said that they would waive certain rules so that members who have not been paying subscriptions, could pay arrears and retain all benefits. However, the union indicated yesterday that there was no constitutional means by which the ban on Mr Geraghty could be removed until he was back in benefit with the union.

The executive will discuss the position at its monthly meeting next Monday. Any return will have to be approved by the "breakaway" branch and a mass meeting.

The Sogat electricians had threatened disruption of national newspapers if their negotiating rights were not recognized.

The TUC had ordered Sogat '82 to withdraw membership cards from the rebels or be expelled from the labour movement.

## Crime rate reduced in London

By Stewart Tandler

Crime Reporter

Serious recorded crime in London fell by 4 per cent last year, the first drop since 1979, and the police clear-up rate rose by 25 per cent after several years of stagnation.

The figures were issued yesterday by Scotland Yard at a press conference to mark the end of Sir Kenneth Newman's first year as Metropolitan Police Commissioner and to launch the next phase of his policing strategy in 1984.

The figures show that the provisional total of recorded crimes in London last year was 659,000 compared with 688,000 in 1982. Almost every category of serious crime showed a reduction in 1983.

Robbery and violent theft fell by 5 per cent, burglary by 4 per cent and auto-crime by 9 per cent. Sir Kenneth said that burglary and auto-crime together represented 54 per cent of all serious crime in the capital.

Overall he felt that the total of reported crimes was still a disturbingly high but the reduction was "grounds for cautious optimism". Brixton had shown a 20 per cent fall in reported crime.

The clear-up rate, based on the number of people arrested and admissions of offences, had increased by 2.5 per cent. In burglary investigations there had been a rise in clear-up rates from 8 per cent to 9 per cent.

## Kashmir front men released

By Craig Seton

West Midlands police yesterday released two prominent officials of the Kashmir Liberation Front, one of them the organization's leader in Pakistan, after detaining them for three days in connection with inquiries into the kidnapping and murder of Mr Ravindra Mhatre, the Indian diplomat in Birmingham.

Mr Hashim Qureshi, national chairman of the front in Pakistan, Kashmiri, who was jailed in Pakistan for hijacking an Indian airliner 14 years ago, and Mr Aman Ullah Khan, British president of the front, from Luton, left West Midlands police headquarters in Birmingham an hour before a judge was due to resume a postponed hearing in London of an application by the front for a writ of habeas corpus to secure their release.

Both men immediately returned to Luton and protested their innocence, claiming that the police had kept information about Mr Mhatre's death from them until Tuesday night - two days after his body was found in a farm drive near Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Mr Mhatre, aged 48, an assistant commissioner at the Indian High Commission in Birmingham, was bundled into a car by at least three Asians last Friday. He was shot twice, in the chest and head, with a hand gun before being dumped on Sunday.

A previously unknown group, calling itself the Kashmir Liberation Army, claimed to have kidnapped him and demanded £1m and the release of Kashmiri "political prisoners" held in India.

Mr Qureshi said after his release yesterday that while he held in Birmingham two detectives from the Indian CID had questioned him and claimed that he had been warned he would be handed over to the Indian authorities.

## Woman dies as high winds lash South

By Rupert Morris

A woman died yesterday and several people were injured when some of the fiercest gusts of wind recorded for 10 years in London and the South blew roofs off houses, brought down telephone wires and left fallen trees blocking roads.

Miss Indira Chandra, aged 32, a pattern cutter, was killed when a chimney stack fell through the roof of her home in Risa Road, Lambeth, south London, in the early morning when she was asleep.

Chimney stacks were dislodged in several similar incidents, including one in Newington, Kent, when two young brothers, Stephen and Trevor Bond, aged five and three, had to be rescued from rubble. They were taken to hospital.

At Lavender Hill, in Battersea, south London, a falling stack brought the roof crashing into a bedroom from which a mother and two young children had moved only two days previously. "If I had not moved the beds, we would be dead now", Mrs Adrianna Boustena said.

An ambulance driver in south London described the wind as "a mini-typhoon", and said that he saw trees, bus shelters and even a three-piece suite being blown down the road.

## 24 hours behind the scenes at TV-am

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The commercial breakfast station TV-am, which was facing the worst financial crisis in its history last night, was pinning its hopes on reducing its operating costs by reducing the staff involved in one of the most complex production exercises in British broadcasting.

Unlike its BBC rival, TV-am has no big organization to back its efforts. The company has been putting out three hours of broadcasting each weekday and five hours at weekends, working to a hectic 24-hour schedule of news, news features, magazine sections, children's programmes and sport, all on a staff of 350.

The weekday production cycle begins at 9.30 am with an editorial planning meeting five minutes after the day's programme has ended. Most senior staff attend the meeting and go through the planned elements of the next day's programme. The newsroom spends the morning working on news features.

At 10 am the four regional crews in Manchester, Glasgow, Cardiff and Belfast come on duty, unless they have been called out earlier on news work. Unlike their four London counterparts, who are on a five days on, five days off contract, the regional crews work a four-day nine-and-a-half-hour week.

At 3.30 pm the planning meeting reconvenes and works out a provisional running order for the next day's show. Ways of taking stories ahead of their expected treatment on *Sixty Minutes* and *News at Ten* are investigated and a list of

potential interviewees is compiled.

Between 7pm and 9pm the regional studios transmit material to TV-am's headquarters in Camden, north London. At 10pm the night writers and news feature editors arrive and examine the first editions of the morning newspapers.

During the early hours the station may take overnight material from its New York producer/reporter, but the cost of satellite material

runs at about £1,000 a time such luxuries, which were common in the early days, now need to be rigorously justified.

At about 3am the duty programme editor, one of four, will hope to snatch a brief nap by his 24-hour spell of duty. At 4.30am crews, presenters, directors and secretaries arrive. Briefs for the presenters are prepared and a running script compiled. Rehearsals begin at 5.45am and at 6.25am TV-am goes on air.

A video tape recording unit

works 24 hours a day handling all output material, including advertisements.

The station's journalists, whose hours vary according to their position, say that 15 staff journalistic posts remain unfilled in the company. TV-am has asked for a reduction of 20 in the total staffing level.

The company has also asked for a reduction of 40 among technical staff, partly through a reduction in the four London crews.

## History of three turbulent years

December 29, 1980: The TV-am company, headed by Mr Peter Jay and Mr David Frost, wins the breakfast franchise. Independent Broadcasting Authority officials later complain that the star quality of the bid, not its intrinsic merits, had won it the franchise against seven rivals.

February 1, 1983: The station goes on air, a month behind the BBC breakfast transmission, much to its chagrin. The IBA rejects TV-am requests for an earlier start. Mr Jay says the company has its back to the wall because of the dispute between Equity and advertisers.

February 10: The BBC leads TV-am 4-1 in the ratings.

February 14: The station seeks an extra £5.5m in working capital, to bring it to its original start-up budget of £15.5m.

February 17: Head of news, Mr Bob Hunter, resigns.

March 18: Mr Peter Jay resigns as chairman and Mr Jonathan Aitken takes over as acting chief executive, Lord Marsh as chairman.

April 19: Miss Annan Ford and Miss Angela Ripston, two of the founding members, are dismissed.

April 22: Deputy chief executive, Mr Hilary Lawson, resigns.

April 29: After talks with the company's backers, Lord Marsh announces that TV-am's future is secure.

May 14: The station's viewing figures slump to 200,000 for the second week running.

May 28: New chief executive, Mr Timothy Aitken, announces that all the 350 staff have taken voluntary pay cuts.

June 27: Miss Ford sees for £137,000 for the loss of his £50,000-a-year position.

September 16: The end of the school holidays puts the BBC back in the ratings lead, but TV-am

establishes a regular audience of about 1.2 million. The advertisers do not follow.

November 1: After weeks of rumours of imminent collapse, the station is saved by a refinancing package which gives Fleet Holdings a 20 per cent share for £2m. The total £4.5m package will enable the company to meet its target of paying all bills within 90 days, it says.

November 21: Mr Kerry Packer's Consolidated Press takes a 10 per cent stake for £1m.

February, 1984: The extent of the company's financial crisis becomes apparent when it is disclosed that in 1983 it took £2m in advertising revenue against an original estimate of £21m. Mr Aitken says that it will run out of funds unless jobs are cut.

## £3,000 bill

A couple who built a £100,000 farmhouse without planning permission face a bill for £3,000, the estimated cost of Sevenoaks council in Kent of knocking down the house.

## Thatcher criticized for 'gag' on GCHQ

By David Felton  
Labour Correspondent

The TUC is organizing protest rallies in support of staff at the Government Communications Headquarters who are faced with dismissal if they refuse to resign union membership. Union officials are determined to cause the Government maximum embarrassment.

The controversy over the ban on two union officials from Cheltenham giving evidence to yesterday's Commons Select Committee on Employment continued outside Parliament with the unions claiming that Mrs Margaret Thatcher was personally responsible for their exclusion.

Mr Jack Hart, chairman of the Civil Service unions at GCHQ, said he had been told by a management official at Cheltenham that the order preventing his appearance before MPs had come from the Prime Minister.

Mr Hart, who was due to be accompanied by Mr Peter Bryant, the secretary of the unions at GCHQ, said: "I was flabbergasted, particularly as it was Mr Edward du Cann, Conservative MP for Taunton, who made the suggestion in the first place that I should go to the select committee."

Civil servants in Manchester threatened to strike on February 28 to coincide with the national day of protest being organized throughout the Civil Service. About 7,000 white collar staff could be affected.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, will address a mass meeting of the Cheltenham staff in the town next Tuesday. On Thursday a rally at TUC headquarters, to which executives of all eight unions in the Civil Service have been invited, will aim to maintain public interest in the campaign of opposition to the ban.

Union officials believe that the promised second meeting with Mrs Thatcher may not be held until late next week, particularly as the select committee report on the controversy is unlikely to be published before next Wednesday.

A meeting yesterday of the TUC's finance and general purposes committee, reaffirmed its support for the Civil Service unions. A statement said: "Recent events have demonstrated the utter lack of any justification for the Government's present stance."

A lobby of Parliament is to be held on February 23. This week union leaders are touring the country addressing meetings at the eight out-stations linked to the Cheltenham base.

## Sale room Continental minefield of paintings values

By Huon Mallalieu

Estimating the value of nineteenth century paintings is a minefield. The recognized Old Masters have become international property, but the prices of more recent painters are often governed by politics and nationalism.

A Czech or Hungarian would be hard pressed to value a British Victorian landscape, and in the same way Sotheby's have little to go on when estimating sales of Continental paintings.

That helps to explain the disparity between many of the estimates and the prices paid by private bidders at yesterday's sale. A notable example was Jan Matejko's "After the Duel" of 1881, which sold for £1,320 against an estimate of £1,000 to £1,500.

There was Karl Stuhlmueller's Munich School "On the way to market", which reached £11,550 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000), and a Dutch street scene by Adrianus Eversen at £8,250 (estimate £5,000 to £7,000).

The Dutch nineteenth century market is a particularly difficult one since it was over-exploited 10 years ago, and a realistic price scale had yet to be established.

The most expensive painting of the sale was a rocky coastal scene by Henry Moret, "Cote Sauvage", which went to a private bidder at £18,150 (estimate £7,000 to £9,000). The sale made a total of £352,374 with just over 25 per cent bought in.

The award-winning Edward Hibbert collection of stamps and postal history of St Helena and the dependencies of Ascension and Tristan da Cunha made £40,100 (pre-sale estimate £25,000) yesterday at the Robson Lowe Rooms (Christie's Philatelic Division) in Duke Street, St James's (Our Philatelic Correspondent writes).

Overseas selling prices

August 29, 1983: Belgium 8 frs 50, Canada 82 frs, Denmark 100 kr, Finland 100 mk, France 100 fr, Greece 100 dr, Holland 100 gld, Italy 100 lire, Japan 100 yen, Korea 100 won, Malaysia 100 ringgit, New Zealand 100 dollars, Norway 100 kroner, Singapore 100 dollars, South Africa 100 rand, Sweden 100 kronor, Switzerland 100 francs, Taiwan 100 dollars, Thailand 100 baht, USA 100 cents, Venezuela 100 bolibars.

Relwyn Ambassador divan set with pocketed spring interior mattress No. 310' 63" 1,849.00 £636.50

510' 63" 1,849.00 £636.50

510' 63" 1,849.00 £636.50

510' 63" 1,849.00 £636.50

London Bedding Centre  
OF SLOANE STREET  
25-27 Sloane Street, London SW1X 9HE Tel: 01-235 7541/4  
(Also at Bourne Ave., The Square, Bournemouth Tel 294340)



## Inquiry clears advice bureaux of bias and urges extra funds

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Citizens Advice Bureaux are an invaluable national asset, provide exceptionally good value for money, and should have their funding increased, an independent review of the bureaux, commissioned by the Government, has concluded.

The inquiry, chaired by Sir Douglas Lovelock, was set up after Dr (now Sir) Gerard Vaughan, the Minister at the Department of Trade responsible for the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, made allegations of political bias against the organization, and quoted the example of Mrs Joan Ruddock, a bureau worker in Reading, who is also chairman of CND. He later withdrew that allegation.

The review recommends that funding of the national association should be increased by £1m, £900,000 of that on a recurrent basis. That would restore the real value of its grant from central government, allow improvements in its management structure and boost the funds of the local bureaux whose dedicated and competent workforce who are largely volunteers, have earned widespread respect, the inquiry says. The report says it found "relatively few and relatively

minor" instances where bureaux had failed to be politically impartial, after allegations that bureaux had become left-wing and were acting as local campaigning pressure groups.

The incidents were "relatively minor", the exception rather than the rule, and needed to be kept in perspective. The national association needed to ensure, however, that they did not recur, and the association needed to draw up

clearer guidelines on how far it should attempt to influence social policies and services.

The association should avoid "campaigning", particularly on issues that fell within party politics, but it was right and proper for it to draw the authorities' attention to the facts, with reasoned argument for change, where that was based on bureau experiences.

Sir Douglas said yesterday that he hoped the review team's report "if nothing else, will lay the Gerard Vaughan ghost to rest".

Sir Gerard had not submitted any evidence to the review team, Sir Douglas said, although he had "half expected him to", and the inquiry had examined only specific instances put to it, rather than try to chase up "half-references and oblique misgivings".

The review team quotes three examples for criticism: the display of a sticker saying "Fight Tebbit's Law with the TUC" in a South Wales advice centre, the production of a circular on coroners' investigations, and the circulation of a report produced by a law centre on social security investigators which described them as "super snoopers".



Sir Gerard Vaughan: Allegation withdrawn

## Damaged child wins £220,760

Johanna Mitchell, aged four, who will never be able to speak or walk because of an accident before she was born, was awarded £214,000 in damages in the High Court yesterday. With interest, the final award will be £220,760.

Mr Justice Kenneth Jones said that the child suffered "catastrophic" brain damage because of negligence at the hospital where she was born. He added that the irreversible damage has left her "a sad and pathetic picture. She will always need help."

The girl cannot walk but moves around her home by rolling on her knees. She cannot speak but makes sounds. She cannot learn sign language because she has no control over her limbs.

Although she will suffer no pain as she grows up she will suffer, the judge said. Her vision and hearing are normal and she is of normal intelligence and has a keen awareness of what is going on around her. "In time she will become more and more aware of her own disability."

He added: "Her intelligence is such that she will be aware of her disabilities and contrast her position with other normal people. She will undoubtedly suffer because of her awareness, more than someone who has no awareness."

She was learning a form of signalling and the computer age might help her to communicate, the judge added. But she would be incapable of normal social intercourse. "She can understand what is said to her, but will never be able to respond."

The girl is cared for by her mother, Mrs Joyce Mitchell, aged 27, at her home in St John's Close, Leatherhead, Surrey. She gave up her job as an office clerk to look after her.

The girl's parents are divorced but her father, Mr Brian Mitchell, who works for British Airways, is also devoted to her and helps.

Mrs Mitchell went into Ashford Hospital, Surrey, to have Johanna, her first child in March, 1979. Complications set in and oxygen to the unborn baby was cut off.

The brain damage was a direct consequence of that failure which, although falling within the bounds of understandable human error, was still negligence, the judge said.

The damages were awarded against Hounslow and Spelthorne Health Authority, responsible for the hospital, which had denied liability.

## Speed limit rises for coaches and lorries

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Speed limits for coaches and lorries will go up by 10 mph on dual carriageway roads from April, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State in the Department of Transport, announced in the Commons yesterday.

The maximum on motorways remains 70 mph but on dual carriageway roads the limit goes up from 50 to 60 mph for coaches and smaller lorries and from 40 to 50 mph for heavy lorries.

The move will be criticized by transport unions, which have been pressing for lower rather than higher limits for coaches and also by the railways because it will increase the competition from lorries and coaches for British Rail freight and InterCity passenger traffic.

Express coaches have bitten heavily into British Rail's traffic since the Transport Act of 1980 freed them to compete, and the new limit will give them a further boost in the form of faster inter-city timing in competition with trains. The government view is that

NEW SPEED LIMITS (existing limits in brackets)

	M-ways	Dual car-ways	Other roads
Private cars	70	70	60
Buses and coaches	70	60 (50)	50
Light lorries	70	60 (40-50)	50
Heavy lorries	50	50 (30-40)	40

existing speed limits have been outdated by the technical development of coaches and lorries, as a result of which the limits are widely ignored.

The police apparently take the view that the new limits, being more realistic and acceptable to drivers, will be easier to enforce. Mrs Chalker is to meet the Home Office shortly to press for stricter enforcement of coaches and lorries on trunk roads.

New regulations to reduce motorway spray from heavy lorries in wet weather were also announced yesterday. More effective mudguards and absorbent material will become mandatory on new lorries from the spring of next year.

## Bank opens longer to help demand

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Success in winning new business has forced Yorkshire Bank, the Leeds-based clearing bank, to extend its opening hours. From April 2, it will keep branches open for an extra 45 minutes each day.

Most bank branches in Britain are open for business from 9.30am to 3.30pm. Yorkshire branches will be open from 9.15am to 4.00pm. Initially 70 branches will be involved, with the other 140 coming into line by the spring of 1985.

With the exception of Barclays, which reintroduced Saturday opening at about 400 branches in 1982, Yorkshire is the first bank to make any significant change in hours since all the banks abolished Saturday opening in 1967.

But whereas the Barclays move was to attract more business and compete with the building societies, the change at Yorkshire is of necessity.

The need for improved opening hours was recommended in a National Consumer Council report on banking services recently.

## MPs clash over role of film censors

Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, clashed with MPs yesterday over the role of the British Board of Film Censors in regulating distribution of video recordings.

Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Castle Point, said at the committee session of the Video Recording Bill that the board had presided over a gradual decline in standards, and he wanted to see it given clearer guidelines. He was supported by Mr Robert MacLennan, Social Democratic MP for Caithness and Sutherland.

## Ripper damages will not be paid

The Yorkshire Ripper, Peter Sutcliffe, yesterday was granted an automatic discharge from bankruptcy in five years' time. As a result two survivors of his attacks and the mother of his youngest victim will not receive damages awarded against him in the High Court.

Mrs Maureen Long, of Bradford who was awarded £8,500 and Miss Marilyn Moore, of Leeds, who was to receive £10,500, are entitled to criminal injuries compensation, but Jayne MacDonald's mother, Mrs Irene MacDonald, of Leeds, who was owed £6,700, will receive nothing.

## Record overseas mail to BBC

The BBC's overseas broadcasts last year stimulated record correspondence of 450,000 letters, 23 per cent more than in 1982, leading the corporation to believe that its regular international audience of 100 million may be increasing.

Mail from Poland has risen from 800 letters in 1982 to more than 5,500. Most of the new mail came from Africa, although those in response to the Turkish and French services doubled.

## City woken by nuclear alert

Coventry's four-minute nuclear alert siren sounded for about 30 seconds at 6.30 am yesterday when an accident occurred at the city's police headquarters.

The siren was heard within a 10-mile area. A police inspector was demonstrating the equipment when the fail-safe system failed to operate.



Going down: Anthony James's canoe drops from the parapet



Coming up: Mr James, shortly after surfacing

## 'Safety' stunt makes a bigger splash

Saying he was practising a safety technique, Mr Anthony James, aged 20, a trainee surveyor, yesterday balanced his canoe on the parapet of a bridge in the centre of York and then launched himself into the turbulent floodwaters of the River Ouse, 20ft below.

Mr James, a keen canoeist for the past six years, has travelled to Spain and Austria in search of "wild water" to test his skills.

Yesterday he found the most ideal conditions in his home city, as 13ft of floodwater turned the river into a torrent.

"I just could not resist the opportunity of trying something a little different," Mr James, of Pulley Drive, York, said. "It looks dangerous but it's fun. However, you have to know what you are doing and only expert canoeists should have a go."

## Lack of interest curtails school trips

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Hundreds of French and West German school children will be unable to take part in exchanges with British children this year because of a lack of interest on the British side, according to an organization which arranges them.

Dragons International, based in Oxford, which fixes 1,000 exchanges a year, says there are

two reasons. First, there is little evidence to suggest that the British are any less insular in their outlook than they were 20 or 30 years ago. Second, there is still little incentive to learn a foreign language as one can get by in English almost anywhere in the world and the number of jobs requiring a foreign language remains small.

Mr Colin Galloway, director of the organization, said that he would be short of 400 to 500 children this year for Easter and summer exchanges.

Dragons International organizes individual and group exchange visits for school children aged 11 to 18 in three countries, with costs starting at £79.

## Barge man buys Gravesend pier

The freehold of the Town Pier, Gravesend, was bought for £75,000 at a London auction yesterday by a Gravesend man because of the memories it evoked.

Mr Frank Cheeseman, a former bargemaster and now managing director of his own river barge company, played round the pier as a boy.

## Consumers seek law to protect deposits

By Robin Young

Consumer group representatives yesterday met Mr Alexander Fletcher, the minister responsible for consumer affairs, to demand legislation to protect customers who have paid in advance from losing money when firms go out of business.

The National Federation of Consumer Groups says that the hundreds of complaints of such losses received each year by trading standards authorities represent only "the tip of the iceberg".

In a report presented to Mr Fletcher, who is Under Secretary of State in the Department of Trade and Industry, the federation says that consumers have lost money paying in advance for goods and services as diverse as carpets, crash helmets, garden sheds, jewelry, holiday travel.

The federation delegation presented Mr Fletcher with the catalogue of a mail-order concern, predicting that the company would crash within two years leaving customers' prepaid orders unfilled. It also cited the losses suffered by customers in the failures of Laker Airways, Eastern Carpets, Guildhall Gardening Products, the Magic Bus holiday company and the Tartan Cottage clothing concern.

"The losses borne by people of modest means amount to untold thousands of pounds every year," Mr Alec Samuels, QC, a member of the federation's legislation committee, said.

Mr Samuels said it was wrong that consumers' prepayments should be used by traders as working capital. "Solicitors and estate agents are not allowed to use customers' money in this way, and reputable traders do not do so. Traders who need people's money in advance to stay in business should not be trading anyway. They are gambling with other people's money."

**Prepayment:** Protecting Consumers' Deposits (National Federation of Consumer Groups, 12 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, LS2).

# "MRS THATCHER?... HULLO?... MRS THATCHER?"

We appear to have been cut off. Guillotined! And just while the Bill to sell off one of the nation's greatest assets, British Telecom, was in mid-debate.

At least the House of Lords now has the opportunity to view just how much is at stake and to consider the implications on the nation's behalf.

It doesn't take a clairvoyant to recognise that British Telecom is at risk. A risk to be involuntarily shared by employees, prospective shareholders and, above all, by customers.

As American experience demonstrates, profit expectations may be expected to swamp BT's public obligations. The results? Pressure to minimise loss-making services (home phones, kiosks and facilities for the handicapped) and an estimated 750,000 unable to afford rising charges.

In the face of commercial criteria, BT's research and development appear destined for domination by short term market needs. The price? Loss of Britain's leadership in world telecommunications.

The telecommunications equipment supply industry will face increasing uncertainty. Future reality is a sharp rise in imports and an erosion of the UK domestic market share.

The much vaunted freedom from government control has the hollowest ring. A quango, the Office of Telecommunications (OFTEL) will govern in government's place with powers of regulation and constraint that will exceed the present regime and breed bureaucracy.

In its brave new privatised world, British Telecom must seek OFTEL's sanction before introducing a product or service that someone — anyone? — deems 'unfairly competitive'.

The Corporation will be expected to lease out its networks — the heartland of its profitability — to competitors. A recipe, in equal measure, for managerial schizophrenia, employee insecurity and shareholder disenchantment.

Major cosmetic surgery is having to be applied to transform a natural and successful public enterprise into an artificially attractive private concern. The £1.25 billion pensions deficit has already had to be shunted into a shell company siding. Is there yet another privatisation flop in the offing?

British Telecom's employees are accused of trying to preserve the past. If preservation means helping to introduce technically advanced services available to all, the maintenance of BT's viability and a secure future for the equipment supply industry, then so be it.

For anyone with the public's interest genuinely at heart it is all too clear that British Telecom is an integral part of the nation's technological heritage and future economic stability. It is as much a social as a commercial resource and the balance between those interests can only be protected from exploitation by leaving a liberalised British Telecom where it rightfully belongs: in public ownership.

For the report 'What Future for British Telecom', prepared by the organisation representing virtually all of British Telecom's managers,

SOCIETY OF TELECOM EXECUTIVES 102/104 Sheen Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2UF



## PARLIAMENT February 8 1984

## Urgent diplomatic action needed on Lebanon

## MIDDLE EAST

Explaining that with the recent deterioration in the situation in Lebanon it had become impossible for the British contingent to the multinational force to fulfil its role of street patrols in Beirut and providing an impartial guard for the ceasefire talks, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, reported to the Commons that the major part of the British troops had been successfully moved to the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Belafant* stationed off the Lebanese coast. They would remain there until the situation became clearer.

He said danger to the contingent had been greatly heightened. It had earned a high reputation among all Lebanese as an impartial force and had carried out its tasks in Beirut with exemplary courage and efficiency. (Cheers)

The British troops had played an important part in the restoration of stability in the Beirut area and providing an opportunity for political reconciliation. It was a tragedy that this opportunity had not been seized.

Sir Geoffrey Howe went on: We continue to have very prominently in our minds the safety of British residents in the Beirut area. I am glad to be able to report that we have received no reports of any casualties.

For those British residents who may wish to leave appropriate arrangements are being put in hand. British Embassy staff are safe and well and their position is being kept under close review.

The need for the restoration of stability, sovereignty and independence to Lebanon remains of the highest importance. We shall stay in close touch with our multinational force partners, with the Lebanese Government and with all those who can help in this process. If needless bloodshed is to be avoided, a supreme effort must now be made by all the parties to settle their differences by compromise.

Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, said: Commonwealth affairs, said Mr Healey, are being put in hand. British Embassy staff are safe and well and their position is being kept under close review.

But many of us (he continued) are disturbed at the Government's failure to organize the evacuation of British civilians, particularly women and children, who wish to

leave, especially as it is five days since the Government began to plan the evacuation of the military personnel.

It is the duty of the British Government to protect British civilians in these dangerous situations to the utmost of its ability.

Did the Government receive a request for withdrawal of the British troops from President Gemayel as President Reagan says he did?

Does the Government recognize that withdrawal of the multinational force from Beirut represents the collapse of American policy in the Lebanon? Yet there are so far no signs that the lessons have been learnt. Indeed, President Reagan yesterday threatened even wider and more indiscriminate intervention from his naval and air forces offshore.

If any profit is to be derived from this Lebanon tragedy, concerned must recognize two lessons. First, there can be no internal settlement which does not reflect the fact that Lebanon now has a majority of Muslims.



Douglas: Tell US that they are wrong

Second, there can be no external security for Lebanon which does not abrogate the agreement with Israel, imposed on Lebanon by American pressure last year and which does not recognize the Syrian desire, and indeed interest, in security through a friendly Lebanon on its frontier.

An even greater danger threatens from a massive escalation of the war in the Gulf in the coming weeks, if not days. Will the Foreign Secretary seek Western talks with the Soviet Government to ensure that the super powers are not dragged into direct military confrontation with each other against the will of both by the action of third parties that they cannot control?

Talks between the Soviet and Western governments might provide a basis on which any peacekeeping operations in the Middle East will be carried out by the United Nations.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: We are well aware of the dangers which arise or may arise in connection with developments in the Gulf.

We have the civilian population very much in mind. Those British residents without urgent reasons to stay in Lebanon were advised to leave as long ago as September last year. In the last few days they have been advised to stay under cover, and arrangements are in hand for those now wishing to leave. The Royal Fleet Auxiliary *Reliant* is close offshore to help if necessary.

There was no request for the British contingent to leave but we have kept in touch with President Gemayel and kept him informed.

On the position of the United States, we have always made plain that the right of MNF participants to take action in the Lebanon was a right limited to self-defence.

The prospects of internal settlement depend on participation by all the communities in a fashion acceptable to make that settlement a reality.

I endorse what Mr Healey says of the importance of recognizing the role and interest of Syria in the Lebanon and the importance of ensuring that the May 17 agreement, while it provided for withdrawal of Israeli forces and while it is necessary to provide clear security for the security of Israel's northern frontier, should not be allowed to become an obstacle to the settlement.

Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, asked how many British civilians were in Beirut and whether the Foreign Secretary felt that the Lebanon-Israel agreement should be ended.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The view we have made clear, and which I made clear during my recent visit to Damascus, was that the May 17 agreement, while it had a legitimate objective at the outset, should not be allowed to become an obstacle to the settlement.

Some say it should be abrogated while others adopt a slightly different approach. The important thing is that without avoiding fulfilment of its original objectives, we must not allow it to stand in the way of some other agreement which would fulfil the objectives properly.

Our best estimate of the British

population is that there are 1,800 UK nationals exempt from immigration control, 800 subjects to control, and 180 citizens of Commonwealth countries for whom we are responsible.

It is possible to say how many may already have left without notifying the embassy. It is difficult to say how many of those remaining might wish to be evacuated.

Mr Julian Assery (Brighton, Pavilion, C): Withdrawal of the multinational force represents a serious setback for Western influence throughout the Middle East. Would he take the initiative in considering urgently with our partners in Europe and the United States, to make sure that this collapse of our influence does not extend to South Asia and the Gulf where the threat is increasing every day?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The failure to achieve reconciliation is much to be regretted. It is important we should not allow this to lead to further erosion of the eastern position.

Mr Derek Russell (Down South, OUP): Why has it taken the Foreign Office so long to anticipate things which were so widely foreseen by others?

How long will the United Kingdom continue to be dragged on the coattails of the disastrous misconceptions of the United States?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I cannot share the way in which he approaches the policies of the United States which, in my view, are the closest, and most important ally.

The US told us of their decision in advance and we told our partners of our own decision. Each country considered the position of its own contingent in the light of its national interest.

Mr Edward de Caia (Taunton, C): What policies are we now going to adopt, what initiative are we going to take either in conjunction with our allies, or through the United Nations?

If we are to achieve this desirable result, some form of international peace keeping force will have to go into the Lebanon?

Sir Geoffrey Howe: We have been pressing for a United Nations force for a number of months. The Prime Minister and I have discussed this on more than one occasion with the UN Secretary-General. I have been in the secret of some of the UN discussions and to the United Nations, to be in touch again today.

The deployment of a UN force would require assent from a wide

range of countries as well as a request from the government of the Lebanon.

He added later: An ultimate settlement on the basis of an independent sovereign Lebanon depends on the withdrawal of all foreign forces, including Israel as well as Syria. It is not helpful to cast blame further than that.

Now that these events are taking place I agree that the case for urgent diplomatic action is strong and we shall have to continue work to that end.

Mr Stuart Bell (Middlesbrough, Lab) asked for an assurance the British troops would not be sent back.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Whether or not circumstances are likely to arise where that was right or possible, remains to be seen. There is no intention of sending them back.

Mr Eddow Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C) said the withdrawal could lead to a loss of credibility in other areas of the Middle East. The expressions of anti-Americanism in the House could have the effect of making America's recall from its commitment in other parts of the world which Britain badly required.

I find it rather strange that the House should be ringing with words of welcome and congratulation over the withdrawal of the West and the withdrawal of all foreign forces and the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon, it is vital that a major diplomatic effort is put in train now to try to prevent any more serious events taking place.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: He endorses what I said about the extreme gravity of the situation and the serious deterioration, and for that reason I have emphasised the need for urgent action to try to secure a settlement.

That action depends on what is said and done by those on the ground, and by the MNF contributing countries and others. The need for action was one reason I was canvassing possible ways forward during my recent visit to Syria.

Sir Ian Gilmour (Chester, and Amersham, C): Any further peace-keeping force will do more harm than good if it is not clearly divorced from any regional alliance. Sir Geoffrey Howe: I accept the thrust of his main observation.

Mr Richard Douglas (Dunfermline, West, Lab): We should not have

been there in the first place. The best policy in terms of allies is one which tells the United States they are wrong in the posture they are adopting in the Middle East.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: The presence of our contingent has helped to open an opportunity for political reconciliation which, sadly, was not taken. I agree about the importance of being willing and ready, as we are, to form an independent view and express it without fear, to the United States. We never hesitate to do that.

Mr Stuart Bell (Middlesbrough, Lab) asked for an assurance the British troops would not be sent back.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: Whether or not circumstances are likely to arise where that was right or possible, remains to be seen. There is no intention of sending them back.

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## Serious implications of tour to S Africa

## SPORT

Mr Neil MacIntyre, Minister for Sport, indicated during Commons questions that he hoped the proposed tour of South Africa by the Rugby Football Union did not take place and warned that if it did there would be very serious and far-reaching implications for British sport as a whole.

Asked by Mr George Stanger (Hemel Hempstead, Lab) for a progress report on discussions about the proposed tour, Mr MacIntyre said: "I have had discussions with the RFU and the British Olympic Association and the British Olympic Council. I have also had discussions with the RFU and the British Olympic Council. I have also had discussions with the RFU and the British Olympic Council."

Mr MacIntyre said: "The Government opposes the proposed tour because of the support for the Commonwealth Games and the Commonwealth Games. I am disappointed to say that it is disappointing to many of us that a Conservative minister should involve himself in matters of sport of this kind. It is not abundantly clear that the Gleneagles agreement, so unwisely entered into by a previous Labour Government, is forcing sport generally, and rugby in particular, to pay a very high price. Can he indicate a single instance where a sporting boycott, or any other boycott, has had any influence on policy?"

Mr MacIntyre: As recently as last November in New Delhi the Prime Minister reaffirmed the Government's commitment to the Gleneagles agreement, and there has been no change.

Mr John Copestake, chief Opposition spokesman on the Environment, said: "It is not now clear that the RFU is planning to go ahead with this tour. Should not the Prime Minister intervene personally to prevent this disastrous tour going ahead?"

Mr MacIntyre: It is quite clear that the role of the RFU over the next few weeks is critical. It is believed in encouraging and carrying rugby football throughout the hundred or so countries which now play rugby.

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past four or five months. I hope that the tour does not take place.

Mr John Copestake (London North, C): Does he not now think the objections he has made have gone far enough, that he should cease any more pressure upon them and accept that persuading ministerial colleagues not to go to international rugby matches because a team of South African schoolboys came here may find favour with the Leader of the Opposition but cuts no ice with this side?

Mr MacIntyre: I do not know what the definition of pressure is but there are very serious and far-reaching implications for British sport as a whole if this tour goes ahead. It is disappointing to many of us that a Conservative minister should involve himself in matters of sport of this kind. It is not abundantly clear that the Gleneagles agreement, so unwisely entered into by a previous Labour Government, is forcing sport generally, and rugby in particular, to pay a very high price. Can he indicate a single instance where a sporting boycott, or any other boycott, has had any influence on policy?

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# Lebanon: World holds its breath and waits to see what happens next

## Jerusalem Cabinet holds crisis session

From Christopher Walker  
Jerusalem

The Israeli Cabinet was summoned into emergency session yesterday to review the implications of the worsening crisis in Lebanon, which has effectively torpedoed many of the wider aims for which the costly invasion of June 6, 1982 was originally launched.

In an effort to maintain secrecy the meeting was ruled to be a session of the Ministerial Defence Committee, the proceedings of which are classified under Israeli law. Israeli sources said later that no operative decisions had been taken and a further Cabinet discussion was due on Sunday.

A majority are believed to be firmly opposed to any further Israeli incursions north of the Aali River, either to protect Lebanese Christians or to try to shore up the crumbling regime of President Amin Gemayel. Most politicians here regard its replacement by a more pro-Syrian government as inevitable.

It is understood that the Israelis have not ruled out air or sea attacks in support of US military moves. But most ministers are anxious to concentrate attention on consolidating security arrangements with the help of local militias in southern Lebanon, in order to facilitate a further pullback there, leading to an eventual Israeli withdrawal.

This approach is opposed by Professor Yuval Neeman, the hawkish Minister of Science and leader of the small Tachit Party. He predicted yesterday that recent events in Beirut would necessitate a permanent Israeli Army presence in southern Lebanon. But he is in a minority inside the coalition Cabinet.

The view of the main Labour opposition was voiced by its daily paper, *Davar*, which stated: "We should not get involved in what is going on in Beirut. What we did not understand in June 1982 we must understand now. Israel must safeguard its borders irrespective of the identity and character of the governments in the neighbouring capitals."

Before the Cabinet session officials were trying to disguise their disappointment at the retreat of the multinational force by laying emphasis on President Reagan's decision to sanction wider firepower for the Sixth Fleet. "We do not see the United States as having closed a chapter," said one.

Earlier this week the gravity with which Israel regards the decision to pull back the Marines and other contingents in the multinational force was revealed by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, when he spoke to visiting American journalists.

"I think that the departure of the Marines, or the French, or Italian or British troops from Beirut is a problem, a very important political issue for all the Western world. It is not an Israeli problem," he told them.

Mr Shamir was pressed to outline what these might be. "If countries in our area will see that in Lebanon the Western powers have been defeated in this confrontation with Syria - a Soviet protectorate - they will draw their conclusions about their positions, about their relations with Eastern and Western powers," he said.

## Israelis kill dog-catcher by mistake

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv

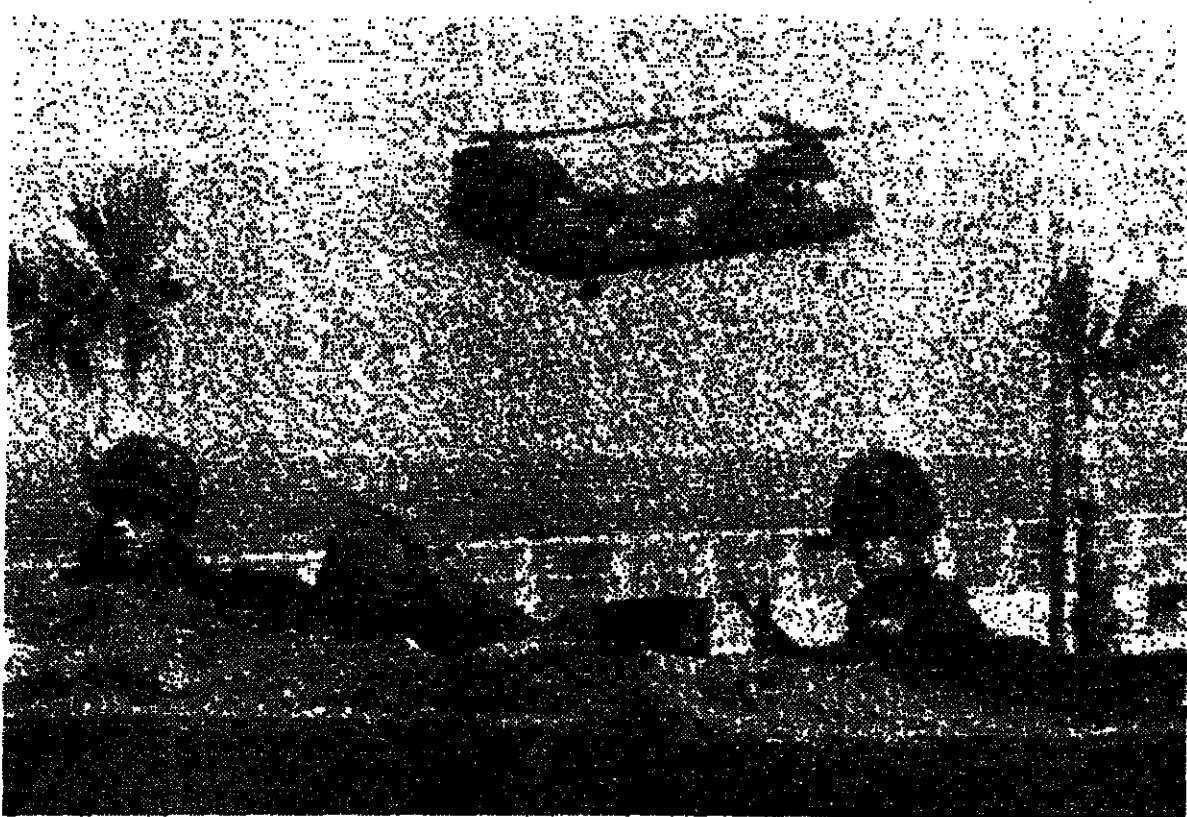
An Israeli Government ranger hunting stray dogs in the occupied Gaza Strip was shot dead yesterday by Israeli soldiers who apparently mistook him for an Arab terrorist.

An Army spokesman said soldiers patrolling the Beit Lahia area near the northern end of the strip heard a shot and suspected terrorists were operating in the vicinity.

Minutes later, the report said, another shot was heard and soldiers saw a Jeep partly concealed by a rise in the terrain but with gun barrels visible. They fired at the Jeep and it began reversing.

The vehicle turned out to belong to the Israeli Nature Preservation Authority's "green patrol".

Mr Arye Dukomatchy, aged 33, was killed and his companion was injured in the shoulder.



Prelude to pull-out: Marines on guard as a helicopter ferries US Embassy dependants to safety from Beirut and gunmen directing traffic outside the French Embassy

## Reagan U-turn silences his critics and boosts re-election chances

From Nicholas Ashford  
Washington

"The situation in Lebanon is difficult, frustrating and dangerous. But that is no reason to turn our backs on friends and cut and run," said President Reagan in his regular weekly broadcast last Saturday, reinforcing his statement in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal* the previous day that he had no intention of pulling US Marines out of Lebanon.

Three days later, in what would appear in effect to be a complete about-face, the President announced that the Marines are to be "redeployed" on US naval vessels off the Lebanese coast, thereby signalling the end of their controversial 16-month peace-keeping mission.

The abruptness with which Mr Reagan changed course caught both his critics and supporters by surprise, even though it had been widely expected that the Marines would be removed from their foxholes around Beirut airport during the course of this year.

Paradoxically, what would appear to be the most serious foreign policy setback of his administration is certain to strengthen Mr Reagan's political position within the US.

Lebanon is the issue on which he is most vulnerable and which most threatens his chances of reelection in November. Opinion polls have shown mounting public disquiet about the continued US presence in Beirut and the danger of more American lives being lost.

On Capitol Hill the Administration's attempts to maintain bipartisan support for its policy were collapsing as Democrats prepared to table resolutions in both houses calling for the prompt and orderly withdrawal of the Marine contingent.

Within hours of his announcement on Tuesday Democratic and Republican Congressmen as well as all of the eight Democratic presidential candidates had voiced their approval of the decision. As Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic front-runner, grudgingly conceded: "Although very late, I applaud his action because I believe it will save American lives."

The decision was undoubtedly a painful one for Mr Reagan. For him their presence not only formed a central part of his policy to restore peace and territorial integrity to Lebanon but also came to symbolize his Administration's attempts to revive American strength and prestige around the world.

However the role of the Marines and the other members of the multi-national force had changed significantly since they

were deployed in Beirut in the wake of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camp massacres in September 1982. Initially, after the removal of Palestinian guerrillas from Lebanon, they were supposed to help the new government of President Amin Gemayel transform his country into a stable, pro-Western state at peace with Israel.

There was no expectation that US armed forces will become involved in hostilities. President Reagan said when explaining why he did not believe the War Powers Act applied to his decision to send the troops to Lebanon.

However, the force soon came to be seen as siding with one of the factions in the protracted Lebanese civil war. As a result the Marines became targets of the dissident forces opposed to President Gemayel "sitting ducks" as Senator Barry Goldwater of Arizona described them.

Just how vulnerable political pawns had become in Lebanon's deadly chess game was horrifyingly demonstrated when the bomb attack on their headquarters last October resulted in 241 Marine deaths.

Mr Reagan's decision to widen the air and sea role of American naval vessels off the Lebanese coast is intended to maintain a US presence in Lebanon and to be a signal to the Syrians and their Moscow associates that they cannot now expect to carve up the country among themselves.

It is also designed to show moderate Arab states in the region, particularly in the Gulf, that the US is a reliable partner and that they can continue to count on US military and political support. American dependability will undoubtedly be one of the issues which King Hussein of Jordan and President Mubarak of Egypt will have uppermost in their minds when they hold talks with the President in Washington next week.

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## History of the peacekeepers

September 20, 1982: President Reagan orders 800 Marines into west Beirut as part of a reconstituted multinational force to help Lebanese Government maintain order after massacres of Palestinian refugees.

September 26: More than 2,000 French and Italian troops deployed in west Beirut.

September 29: US Marines land in Beirut.

February 1, 1983: Queen's Dragon Guards begin arriving. British unit is 97 strong.

August 29: Two Marines are first Americans to die in combat since arrival of peacekeeping force, during heavy fighting between Lebanese Army and Shia Muslim militias.

September 23: French launch first air strikes against Druze and Syrian positions in Chouf Mountains.

October 23: Suicide bombers attack US and French military headquarters. American death toll from this one attack 241, and the French 58.

December 21: Bomb attack on the French kills one soldier and more than a dozen civilians.

December 23: President Pertini of Italy says his country's 2,100 strong contingent should be withdrawn.

January 2, 1984: French announce switch of 482 troops to United Nations Truce Force (Unifil) in southern Lebanon.

January 17: First contingent of Italian troops to be withdrawn as part of reorganized deployment, cutting numbers to 1,400, arrive in Italy.

February 1: American has lost 259 men, France 84 and Italy one. British troops only suffered a few injuries.

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## French anxious to go home at the earliest opportunity

From Diana Geddes, Paris

France appears to have no immediate intention of withdrawing its 1,240 troops from Beirut, although the Government has left little doubt that it is anxious to do so at the first opportunity.

President Mitterrand told yesterday's Cabinet meeting that France still wanted the Security Council to take up the situation in Beirut, with a view to replacing the multinational force with a United Nations one.

The Government hoped this line, which was adopted several months ago, would result in concrete development "in the hours or days to come." M. Max Gallo, the government spokesman, said.

No statement was made on the Government's views about possible withdrawal. M. Charles Hernu, the Defence Minister, would only say France's position had been clearly explained by President Mitterrand on Tuesday.

The President stated: "I said long ago that I was asking for a relief (of the multinational force) as quickly as possible by an international United Nations force... France does not intend to remain indefinitely in Lebanon."

A total of 84 French soldiers have been killed in Beirut since the multinational force arrived.

ROME: Announcing plans for a phased pull-out of Italian forces from Beirut, Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Minister of Defence, told senators last night that the withdrawal would not leave a gap in surveillance of Palestinian camps, which was the principal Italian responsibility (Peter Nichols writes).

"The absolute guarantee is the United Nations and we must try to bring the United Nations to Sabra and Chatila." There were UN forces in southern Lebanon and the Italian Government was asking that some be sent to protect the Palestinian camps, which hold some 15,000 people.

This "protected handover" would have to be carried out quickly and if that were not possible "we must seek other guarantees for leaving the camps in conditions of absolute security, accepting for ourselves to continue only in limited police and health roles for as long as necessary."

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## Assad pledges support for Lebanese unity

Damascus (NYT) - President Assad has pledged his Government's continued support for Lebanon. Its unity and territorial integrity, according to the official Syrian press agency.

The agency said the President made the statement on Tuesday during a meeting with a visiting delegation of prominent Sunni Muslim political leaders from Lebanon, including three former prime ministers.

The statement came before President Reagan announced his decision to evacuate the US Marines in Lebanon to ships offshore.

Mr Donald Rumsfeld, the special American envoy, is expected in Damascus and both the Lebanese delegation's visit and that of Mr Rumsfeld reflect Syria's central role in the Lebanese political equation. The collapse of the Govern-

ment there was seen here as a victory for Syria and its allies. In addition to backing opposition political forces in Lebanon, Syria maintains 40,000 troops in the northern and eastern parts of the country.

The Lebanese delegation was composed of mainstream Muslim politicians who are not members of the co-called National Salvation Front, which has been formally coordinating its political and military stance with Syria.

In a brief report on President Assad's meeting with the Lebanese delegation, the press agency said the President emphasized continued Syrian support for Lebanon, its unity and territorial integrity.

Later in the day, the official Syrian radio accused Israel and the United States of planning to attack Syria and the opposition Muslim forces it is supporting in the Bekaa Valley.

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## Formula for Greenland's exit approved by EEC

Conditions for Greenland to leave the EEC were approved by the European Commission in Brussels yesterday. The aim is agreement by the end of next month, in time for the former Danish colony to leave the Community at the beginning of next year. It voted to leave in a referendum nearly two years ago.

Under the proposals, Greenland would be paid about £1.1m a year to allow EEC boats to fish up to 12,000 tonnes in its waters, roughly the amount they catch there now. For its part, Greenland would have a

guaranteed minimum catch.

● Farm cash row: The EEC's financial crisis, which has held up payments of almost £100m to Britain's hill farmers, has led to a dispute between the Treasury and the Ministry of Agriculture (the Press Association reports



## French £400m package for industrial renewal criticized on all fronts

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Proposals for new social and economic measures, designed to ease the pain of the "reconstruction and modernization" of French industry, were adopted by the Cabinet yesterday. But they have already been widely criticized by unions, employers, and the Socialist Party itself.

The proposals which will form the basis of consultations with the unions over the next three weeks, are expected to cost £5 billion to a billion francs (£400m to £800m) this year.

They will affect five main industrial sectors, all facing serious difficulties: steel, coal, shipbuilding, the car industry and telecommunications. Between 10,000 and 15,000 workers may benefit from a paid two-year "retraining leave", proposed for those made redundant in these sectors.

That is far fewer than envisaged when the Government first spoke of its plans last month (after pressure from the unions). M. Pierre Mauroy, Zille Prime Minister, said then that the intention was to carry out industrial "modernization

without redundancies". Hundreds of thousands of workers are expected to lose their jobs over the next few years.

M. Henri Krasucki, the General Secretary of the Communist-led CGT union, said after talks with the Prime Minister earlier this week, that the Government's plans had resolved nothing. No proposals had been made for the creation of jobs, he said, adding that the hopes workers had in a left-wing government were threatened, although not yet wholly lost.

Nothing was irreversible. If workers put forward their views with sufficient force and unity, he believed they would be in a better position to make themselves heard than in the past. The CGT has recently called for a significant increase in industrial action.

M. Edmond Maire, the General Secretary of the Socialist CFDT union, criticized the Government's measures for creating unfair divisions. On the one hand were the five industrial sectors named in the Government's plans, for which

special measures were to be taken, and on the other were the thousands of industries equally threatened but forgotten, he said.

Socialist MPs have expressed concern about the inherent "dualism" in the Government plans. They also wonder where the money is going to come from, given the attempts to cut public spending to reduce inflation and what many believe to be President Mitterrand's irresponsible promise to reduce taxes by the equivalent of 60 billion francs next year.

The zones franchises, modelled in part on Britain's free enterprise zones, which were first envisaged in the Government's plans, have been replaced by much more modest "industrial conversion areas", affecting about a dozen of the hardest-hit areas.

In addition government aid this year to nationalized industries, costing 12.8 billion francs, will be increased by a further billion, while aid to private industry will rise from 5 to 7 billion francs.



Before the launch: Soviet Astronauts Vladimir Soloviyev, Leonid Kizim and Oleg Atkov at a televised press conference

## Russia puts three more astronauts into space

Moscow (Reuters) - The Soviet Union launched a manned spacecraft yesterday with a crew of three on board.

Tass, named the crew of Soyuz T-10, as Colonel Leonid Kizim, Flight Engineer Vladimir Soloviyev and Cosmonaut researcher Oleg Atkov.

The Soyuz will link up with the Salyut-7 orbital station and the cosmonauts will carry out scientific, technical, medical and biological experiments.

Like all Soviet space missions, the flight was not announced in advance. Shortly after Tass broke the news, Soviet citizens watched a recorded film of the launch from the Baikour Cosmodrome in Central Asia.

The last Soviet space mission, that of cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Alexander Alexandrov, ended on November 23 when the two men returned to Earth after a total of 149 days in space.

Fresh meaning has been given to the "space race" phrase of the 1960s by President Reagan's announcement last month that the United States would aim to develop a permanently manned space station.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly sent visiting crews to its semi-permanent series of Salyut space stations and declared its long-term goal of developing an orbital complex made up of several modules.

At a press conference before yesterday's launch, televised later, one of the cosmonauts said it would be "such a long mission", suggesting that it might equal or exceed the record.

Oleg Atkov is a medical man specializing in heart conditions, who would presumably be able to carry out more complex in-flight medical experiments. One of the main question-marks over long-term space flights is the effect of prolonged weightlessness on human physiology.

Mission commander Leonid Kizim, aged 42, was commander of the Soyuz T-3 spacecraft which linked up with the previous orbital station Salyut-6 in 1980.

● CAPE CANAVERAL: The US shuttle challenger's astronauts went before the camera yesterday to star in a panoramic movie being shot by colleague "Cecil B" McNair as their schedule called for rest and experiments before the next walk in space today (AP reports).

## Kohl answers bitter opposition attack

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

Chancellor Kohl and Herr Manfred Wörner, the West German Defence Minister, came under bitter opposition attack in the Bonn Parliament yesterday in a two-hour debate on the Kiesling affair.

The Social Democrats (SPD) accused Herr Kohl of direct involvement in Herr Wörner's decision to dismiss General Günter Kiesling, aged 58, as a security risk after reports that he was a homosexual. They said Herr Kohl had therefore taken upon himself responsibility for the affair.

Herr Gerhard Jahn of the SPD said that allowing the Minister to retain his post contradicted the customs of Parliamentary democracy, political culture and the reputation of the State.

Herr Willi Brandt of the SPD said a Defence Minister who made his department into a "panic orchestra" was out of place. Herr Jahn and Herr Brandt also said the Chancellor had not given satisfactory answers to the SPD's questions about the background to the affair.

Herr Kohl said he would answer all the questions in detail when he appeared before the Parliamentary all-party committee investigating the affair. His decision to rehabilitate the general and refuse Herr Wörner's offer to resign had taken into account the interests of the Federal Republic, the

general and the armed services.

Herr Kohl added that he had decided it on his own responsibility. There had been no problems about it in his Conservative-Liberal coalition.

He assumed that in the interests of the security of the Federal Republic all mistakes that had been made would be cleared up. It was important for Herr Wörner's personal credibility that he had admitted his own mistakes.

Herr Kohl added: "I am convinced that the Minister, after his experience will in future perform especially good work for the armed services."

Herr Brandt accused the Chancellor of holding on to

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## France pins its EEC hopes on austerity

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The French strategy for cutting through the Gordian knot of problems tying up progress in the EEC has become clearer after the latest round of councils in Brussels and the visit of President Mitterrand to Holland.

Essentially the aim is to agree on a fixed limit to community spending, and then to make it impossible for this limit to be broken.

Britain could be well satisfied with such a settlement, but only on condition that the share allotted to farm spending is particularly strictly controlled. It is also unlikely to want to find money for some of the

more grandiose schemes envisaged by President Mitterrand, such as a manned European space station.

Faithful to his plan to sound out the opinion of all EEC countries before the next European summit in March, President Mitterrand went to Luxembourg yesterday to discuss the problems and ideas of the Community's smallest state. Tomorrow he will be in Athens and next Wednesday in Brussels.

His visits have a dual purpose. On the one hand he is trying to work up enthusiasm for the European ideal so that the political will for agreement

can be created. On the other he is testing how acceptable the French idea for "capping" EEC spending is among other member states.

The Community's finance ministers on Monday found that M. Jacques Delors, the French Minister, means to press ahead with his plan for imposing a strict limit on Community spending. He first suggested it last November, and Mrs Thatcher has described it as excellent.

President Mitterrand, speaking in The Hague, outlined this approach as one of the ways for solving the EEC's problems. He emphasized the great import-

ance of budgetary discipline in language which Mrs Thatcher could only applaud.

But within this overall approach there is still no sign that farm ministers are prepared to make any concession which will involve any cost to their farmers.

Despite the looming financial crisis, however, President Mitterrand seems set on a "softly, softly" approach to the March summit.

● PARIS: French farmers have ended a two-day protest against British meat imports, in the course of which they invaded French Channel ports (AFP reports).

## Balloon man hailed as hero

Page, Arizona (Reuters) - David Gill, aged 25, an engineer from Oswestry, Shropshire, ignored evacuation orders and shut off valves spewing flammable propane gas over the launch site of a 25-storey-tall balloon as the rest of the ground crew ran to safety.

The balloon broke loose from its moorings on Tuesday, minutes before Mike Kendrick and Por Lindstrand were to attempt a world altitude record.

Mr Gill was hailed as a hero yesterday. A project spokesman said he stayed behind to close valves on four more propane tanks at the launch site.

"If it had not been for his quick action, things could have become very dangerous." But Mr Gill said: "It is something anyone would have done in the circumstances."

The directors of Operation Sky Quest now have to decide whether to make another attempt on the record, which stands at 55,134 ft, or return to Britain and try again later.

## Spain retreats from anti-Nato stance

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Withdrawal from Nato would be a retrograde step for Spain, while military integration offers several advantages, a Defence Ministry study says.

It is the second sign within days of subtle changes afoot since the Socialist Government came to power 14 months ago, committed to a referendum on whether Spain should withdraw.

Spain joined the political side of the alliance in May, 1982, but the Socialists, on taking office, stopped further integration pending the referendum.

A report prepared by the head of the Defence Planning Unit at the Ministry reflects what has been learnt from a year's observer status on Nato's military committee in Brussels.

"If we withdrew from Nato, the lost benefits in information and planning... would create a void for the armed forces impossible to fill", the report says.

Similar arguments were advanced a few days ago by Señor Guillermo Gálvez, the Socialist chairman of the

defence committee of the Lower House. He said the Government ought to reconsider the Nato question.

Señor Gálvez is close to Señor Alfonso Guerra, the Deputy Prime Minister, who has frequently recalled the Socialist pledge to advocate the withdrawal.

One of the key arguments in the defence report, released by the press department of Señor Narcis Serra, the Defence Ministers is that the other NATO countries "do not appear disposed to substitute the multilateral treaty with a series of bilateral agreements with Spain, if our full integration has not been achieved beforehand."

World and European problems make it difficult to hold the referendum now the report says, possibly suggesting postponement of the vote.

All the signs are that Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, wants to link staying in NATO with Spain's entry to the EEC by 1986.

# Tonight at 9.30, watch an English boy get sent down for life.



5.00 Television Scrabble. Stephanie Lawrence is the guest star heading the challenging team today.

5.30 Chips Comic. Computer Chips and his friends look at oil drilling, oiling moving parts, and the use of petrol.

6.00 Barriers. Benedict Taylor as Billy, an orphaned teenager in search of his parents.

6.30 The Good Food Show. Prue Leith puts the case for stodgy goodies like jam roly-poly, spotted dick, and treacle tart.

7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.50 Comment. Neil Kinnock's first day in Washington.

8.00 Treasure Hunt. Tonight Majorca is the hunting ground for Annela Rice and her helicopter.

9.00 Soap. The Campbells and the Tates confront each other at a party with hilarious results.

9.30 The Boy in the Bush. It is 1882. Eighteen-year-old Jack Grant is shipped off to Australia by his parents, after being expelled from agricultural college. This four-part film series, based on a novel by DH Lawrence and ML Skinner, follows Jack's adventures as he grows to manhood in the tough surroundings of the outback, and encounters love and hostility.

10.30 World in Action Special. Gus Macdonald introduces a special World in Action report which focuses on the Protestant view of Ulster.

11.30 Wish You Were Here...? If you missed it on ITV last Monday, this is another chance to tour Cyprus, visit Chester, and take a motorhome journey through California.

12.00 Stand Your Ground. Practical self-defence for women.



## SPECTRUM

## Lost loves of a soul survivor

"The past is very vivid. I think that as I get older, I think more and more about the early days... my childhood, my parents, my sisters and brother, and what life was like. And then the First World War which cracked the whole structure of our secure, privileged and very happy life. The bath water grew cold; the huge lawn was ploughed up for potatoes, the sons of friends were killed. I became aware of grief - other people's grief, world grief..."

Talking quietly, pausing between each word so that she seems at times to have lost direction, only to return with precision to the point - Rosamond Nina Lehmann easily evokes the lost world she transmuted into fiction. She was born on the day of Queen Victoria's funeral, in 1901, a coincidence which seemed to give me an unexpectedly distinguished cachet: almost the reflection of a royal nimbis."

The long reign had ended at last, and a brief golden era was just beginning: the interlude that would end with the submergence of the old order in the mud of the Somme and the Marne. Rosamond Lehmann's birth was timely: her novels were to reflect both the elegance and the transience of the age. They have their roots (*Dusty Answer*, 1927) in the well-established Victorian literary tradition. They end in the more complex and shifting novel forms of the twentieth century - though whether you take *The Echoing Grove* (1953) or *A Sea-Grape Tree* (1976) as the proper ending is a matter of imagination.

She has described her upbringing as privileged and leisured. Their large house on the Thames at Bourne End was run by servants. The four Lehmann children "had the run of our father's library": watched over by their uncle's portraits of Browning and Wilkie Collins, they read Dickens as soon as they could read anything, and heard stories of their grandparents' friendship with George Eliot, George Henry Lewes, Bulwer Lytton, and Charles Dickens himself. They could not but be aware of three generations of artistic achievement behind them.

Rosamond was devoted to their father, Rudolph C. Lehmann - *Punch* editor, poet, Liberal MP, and famous "oar" - of whom the youthful Roosevelt wrote home to his parents, "Last night Mr Lehmann, the English coach, gave us an informal talk on rowing... as you probably know, he is about the greatest authority on rowing in the world."



The Times Profile: Rosamond Lehmann

It is interesting to compare accounts of this background by Rosamond (second in the family) and John Lehmann, the youngest. He portrays their childhood in broad, vivid strokes; happy, united, stimulating. Her style, in contrast, is that of film: intense cross-cuts isolate moments of intense pain or pleasure, always seen from the outside. She explains: "I always thought I was different, terribly isolated, thinking nobody understood me. Reading my parents' letters to each other after they were dead, I found they were worried about me. I was so oversensitive and anxious. I think I felt that nobody would understand what my despair was - not that I understood it myself."

She started writing verse at six, and gradually "the feeling of being locked-in and frustrated receded". But the sense of being outside did not, in all

her novels Miss Lehmann conjures up the lamplit fascination of other people.

*Dusty Answer*, written not long after Giron, and drawing on experience there, was an overnight success. A charge made by some critics that the novel displayed an unhealthy obsession with sex ensured its bestseller status. Fan letters came from all over Europe and America: men as well as women offered themselves as soul-mates to its lonely author. Rose Macaulay reviewed it somewhat disapprovingly, saying that when she was at Cambridge she and her friends did not think about young men. One letter, signed "Mother of Six", said: "Before consigning your book to flames, would wish to inform you of my disgust that anyone should pen such filth, especially a MISS."

All "informed" opinion agreed that

the novel was mere autobiography, and that she would never be heard of again.

This Rosamond Lehmann countered with *A Note in Music* (1930), *Invitation to the Waltz* (1932), its sequel *The Weather in the Streets* (1936), *The Ballad and the Source* (1944), a collection of stories, *The Gypsy's Baby* (1946), and *The Echoing Grove* (1953) her last novel for many years. With its complex time-structure and subtle ironies, *The Echoing Grove* is probably her masterpiece, and stands as a forceful argument against those patronizing detractors who hint that, after all, Lehmann is merely a women's novelist.

It has become a critical commonplace to say that Lehmann novels are about love. *The Weather in the Streets* has been called the quintessential novel "of the other women", and it shocked readers in the 1930s by dealing with adultery and abortion. But to sum it all up as "love" is far too simplistic, as she herself agrees.

Rosamond Lehmann's genius is to embody in luminous prose what Cecil Day Lewis called, in the magnificent poem *Elegy Before Death*, at *Settling* (dedicated to R.N.L.), "the potency of farewell". Her two marriages ended, her private life was often deeply troubled: as a teenage girl she watched her splendid and beloved father die of Parkinson's disease, as a woman she heard by telephone of the death of her daughter... and it is all this (beyond the mere spotting of "originals" for faithless lovers) that gives the novels their depth.

In her conversation, as in her work, Rosamond Lehmann can sometimes seem preoccupied with the appearances of things: beauty in men and women, elegance in clothes and surroundings, all the accoutrements of a certain class at a certain time in British history. Yet it was she who witnessed her own father weeping in that grand library at the death of the groom's little daughter; so the well-mannered or glittering surfaces shift and dissolve, to reveal the terror beneath. It is precisely this tension between exteriority and inwardness, and reality which lends her work its fine irony. So, in *The Weather in the Streets*, the easy glamour of Rollo Spencer contrasts with Olivia's loneliness, and the bleak finiteness of their love affair.

Not so much love, then, as loss: sides of the same coin. In the novels, the death of a child (abortion, stillbirth, a son killed at war) is a frequent symbol: one that darkly prefigures the bereavement which was to change Rosamond Lehmann's life. Again, she will make the loop back into childhood, recalling that when she was about 10 she was taken to see Maeterlinck's *The Blue Bird*. "There's a moment when the children are in a graveyard surrounded by tombstones and lilies, and they cry out: 'But there are no dead'. I distinctly remember nearly fainting with excitement and relief, and thinking, I know that's true."

Years later, her understanding of that faith is what gives her life meaning. In 1958, Rosamond Lehmann's daughter Sally contracted poliomyelitis in Indonesia, and died suddenly at the age of 22. The shock, and appalling grief, changed the mother's life: her existence was "maimed" and her life as the novelist she had been was over. In a private letter she writes: "I think it true to say that some dimension of creativity dropped off me, so to speak, when that meta-noia occurred after Sally left the Earth. I realized, and still do, that I could never write the kind of novel I had always written..." She did, however, move towards a more concentrated and poetic expression of her belief in the life of Sally's spirit. To sum up this conviction in a word so fraught with misunderstanding as "spiritualism" does not do justice to Rosamond Lehmann's profound comprehension of the nature of death, and of the survival of the soul. It is best to read the semi-autobiography, *The Swan in the Evening*.

When it came out in 1967 the response was mixed: critics and friends alike were embarrassed (as she had feared) by her exploration of the two taboos: death and its aftermath. Not so now: the book brings countless letters from bereaved parents, many of whom visit her to talk about their loss. She sees this as her new work: "Now I know why I have been left behind. I am vice-president of the College of Psychic Studies and it is a great part of my life... a lifeline. I feel I have a role - to tell people that death does not exist. It isn't hard for me to do. It is what I am for." But she was hurt and irritated when her attempt to write "a novel with a psychic dimension" (*A Sea-Grape Tree*) met with a callow lack of comprehension.

Her sitting room, in the small house in South Kensington, is small and crammed with books. She works on a tray on her knee by the fire, photographs of her two small great-grandchildren at her elbow. She is warm and welcoming, pleased to find points of contact and common interest, and fascinated by facts about her visitor's children.

Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren are, she says, very important to her: embodying the sense of continuation. "I was talking to my four-year-old great-grandson the other week. He was staying with me in the small cottage I have in Suffolk, and came into my room early in the morning. I opened one eye, and he said, 'I'll miss you when you go to heaven'. I told him that we'd keep in touch with one another. Then he said, 'You're rather old, aren't you? I'm young, but I shall get old. When I'm old, will you come and fetch me? Isn't it amazing? He just wanted reassurance that there would be somebody there to receive him, if only I had somebody to give a promise like that!'"

She will watch *Crown Court* on the television in the afternoon, and be riveted by the jury's verdict; read novels by Alice Thomas Ellis and Anita Brookner; keep abreast of literary gossip. Though friends press her to write another novel, she asserts that she is content with things as they are. But she was very excited by what she calls her "resurrection" by Virago, who republished novels long out of print, and brought Rosamond Lehmann back to a public which wondered why she had for so long been neglected. She chuckles. "It is sheer delight, pleasure, surprise. My grandchildren did not really think of me as a writer. Recently my son Hugo told me that his son Guy had just read *The Weather in the Streets*, and was bowled over! It's marvellous to have a new generation of readers. They identify, you see. The world may have changed, but the human problems stay the same."

She says, with a complete absence of sadness or tiredness, that she will welcome death. "I am very serene now; I have complete peace of mind. I do get slightly depressed when the aesthetes, bad, and I dread to live to be a burden. And one loses friends: I miss my sister Beatrice (the actress) dreadfully, and Elizabeth Bowen was a great friend... The voice fades, for a moment you think that she has forgotten those words; of the children in *The Blue Bird*. Then she looks up, and says with utter trust in the listener's understanding: 'But you see, I can only be serene because I know that death does not exist. I have complete conviction that I am going to know more than I know now. And see Sally again.'"

Bel Mooney

Rosamond Lehmann's *The Weather in the Streets*, adapted by Julian Mitchell, will be shown on BBC2 on Sunday 9.30 pm.

however...  
Russell Davies

## Ghastly Gastein

By now, the more provident and sensible among you should already have laid your bets, officially termed "deposits", on which of the tour operators is likely to be still operating when summer comes round. However, there is still time to take advantage of February's special offers, many of which include tempting extras, such as free travel and accommodation for one child between the ages of 2 and 3, and reduced-price ski passes for OAPs.

The British Booking Centre advises that the best bargains are now available at the less fashionable resorts, and that particularly good value-for-money deals may be obtained at the locations we list below (extracts from a brochure by permission of Intapunta Ltd). Please note that all bookings quoting this exclusive Times Newspapers code (SEP.3/1939) will qualify for a free Arab feast of spicy couscous and sheep's eyes on all routes traversing the Bay of Biscay, whether by air or sea.

Unterammergau: Take me to your Lederhosen! This is surely one of the sleepest villages in the Tyrol, except in Leap Year, when the inhabitants bend themselves to the task of producing their famous Ration Play. This ancient text, commemorating the legendary food shortages of the thirteenth century, is performed for the benefit of villagers by a specially auditioned cast of tourists. It could be you! (Take packed lunch.)

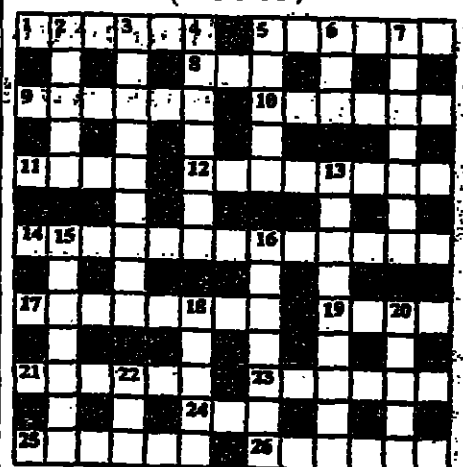
Outsbruck: Quite a long way from Innsbruck, especially in terms of provision of amenities. But an excellent centre for walks to local beauty spots such as Bad Gastein, Good Gastein, and Ghastly Gastein. Buses are few and far between, but the accommodation at the Hotel Niemand is extremely available.

Wellidorm: This new resort on Spain's undiscovered Costa Mungia is just beginning to make an impact. Expressly designed (and built) for the British visitor, its 38 hooligan-proof bars will challenge your ingenuity. A thoughtfully constructed chrome-and-glass shopping centre makes you feel right at home, and there are elegant rambling graffiti to complete the effect. At the 9,000-bed Hotel Punta, a helpful photomontage above each bed shows how it should be used, and why. Cisco's Disco is a 24-hour affair, like most of what goes on in Wellidorm - and here's a novel touch - Wayne's Red Barrel is available from standpipes on the beach.

Dedlos: Give Greece a chance! Only 12 hours by trawler from Piraeus is the endlessly sun-kissed island of Dedlos, part of that forgotten corner of the Cyclades which also includes Thermos, Kolyon, Maizos and Jolos. Here you can forget your cares and tie-in the sun with a glass of ouzo at your elbow, or alternatively sit in the shade with a glass of retsina balanced on your head. And for that special occasion, why not tie in the sun with a glass of retsina and vice versa? Anything goes on beautiful Dedlos, except the ferry to Ipsos and Givatos.

Dallas (pronounced Dath-las): A little-known village in Gwynedd, North Wales, remarkable for its traditional feuds between slate magnates. Every year we return to this tiny community hoping it isn't there any more. No luck so far.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 263)



- ACROSS
- Invested, with title (6)
  - Excessively sweet (6)
  - Type (3)
  - Head banging (4)
  - Unsignificant person (6)
  - Indian coin (4)
  - Book plate (2,6)
  - Scholarly women (4,9)
  - Seaman's sweater (8)
  - Wheel bar (4)
  - Establish (6)
  - Hot pot stand (6)
  - Leguminous plant (3)
  - Minister (6)
  - Vocal passage (6)
- DOWN
- Town dwelling (5)
  - Caribbean pirate (9)
  - Differs in opinion (7)
  - Special ability (5)
  - Chatter idly (2)
  - Swaying (7)
  - Colonel's superior (9)
  - Wash clothes (7)
  - Transparency (7)
  - Brushed (5)
  - Say in bed (3,2)
  - Comedy (7)
  - Meeting (3)

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ROSAMOND NINA LEHMANN  
born February 3, 1901, educated  
privately, Giron College,  
Cambridge, married 1928 Hon.  
Wogan Phillips  
Winning  
1927 *Dusty Answer*  
1930 *A Note in Music*  
1932 *Invitation to the Waltz*  
1936 *The Weather in the Streets*  
1939 *No More Music* (play)  
1944 *The Ballad and the Source*  
1946 *The Gypsy's Baby*  
1953 *The Echoing Grove*  
1965 *A Man Seen Afar* (with W.  
Tudor Pole)  
1967 *The Swan in the Evening*  
1971 *Letters From Our Daughters*  
(with Cynthia, Baroness  
Sandys)  
1976 *A Sea-Grape Tree*

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## THE ARTS

Television  
A lovely  
sort of  
boredom

Those Rayners at Hollywood House. Harrow-on-the-Hill, have they got something going. "We are so devoted it's a joke," said Mrs Rayner, an agony aunt read and watched by millions with nothing to mar her joy other than the dreadful feeling that one day mortality must spoil it.

Claire and Desmond were telling how it is in Edward Mizzoff's *The Other Half*, which is going to be a diverting half-hour on BBC1 for the next five weeks as disparate couples, each consisting of a known and unknown, expose themselves to our gaze and, as they are volunteers, risk our conclusions.

Mrs Rayner began last night at a racing pace. Tranquillized, one would imagine she would appear rather extrovert. They married in 1957. An unresolved problem with her parents meant that an uncle gave her away. Since then, as the song says, it don't seem a day too much.

Desmond Rayner is a failed actor, a former public relations man and, lately - for we saw his first exhibition at the Barbican patronized by the American Ambassador - a painter. Mainly he looks after Claire's affairs, for she hates money and it bores her.

Boredom threatens constantly, for the money pours in. Being in demand where agony admits no other solution is only part of it. She has historical novels selling in 19 countries and one of them alone brought in £248,750 for the paperback rights, disturbing Mrs Rayner's ennuï sufficiently for her to remember it. Seventy per cent of her income, she said, came from novels.

Six part-time secretaries attend her in Hollywood House. A beauty brigade who descend to do their best for her add to the traffic. Desmond is mostly around, though they have separate telephones.

He does not mind being in the shadow at all: he feels that with Claire he has got quantity and quality. Every week he hands her £15 pocket-money, keeping that boredom to a bearable minimum.

Everywhere they go they have double beds. Confronted with single beds, said Desmond, irrespective of the native tongue, he said "matrimonial". Their three children, two boys, aged 21 and 16, and a girl aged 24, joined the celebration. One boy, said Claire, had been temporarily suspended from public school for being a pot party. Her fame had caused undue publicity. The other son had dropped out of university.

They were all boisterously happy. Desmond and Claire touching and kissing, exuding bliss by the bucketful. "If one of us is away," said Claire, "the other wails". I could quite believe it.

Dennis Hackett



Stuart Bedford: "A lot remains to be solved"

Opera  
Lost traditionThe Indian Queen.  
Playhouse, Oxford

The baroque semi-opera has always seemed an unlikely institution, and I fear its claims are not strongly urged by the Oxford University Opera Club's attempt to find something to revive in *The Indian Queen*.

This was Purcell's last important work for the theatre, but that suggests something of wisdom and maturity, forget it. Purcell was not asked for such things, his task being rather to add a few songs, dances and chorals scenes to a Dryden play that had been around for 30 years, a heroic drama set in Mexico just before the Spanish conquest.

To summarize the plot would be tedious, and quite beyond my capabilities. Besides, the interest of the piece is not there. Dryden's play presents us with queens, warriors and princes moved by the most generalized sentiments of Honour, Magnanimity, Love and Disdain to speak in regular patterns of rhyming couplet and quatrain, while the music, such as it is, takes over a few exotic corners of the drama: most notably a scene of apparitions in the third act, the kind of thing Purcell was well used to supplying.

As usual in this genre, the speaking and singing casts rarely meet and do not even seem to be in the same world, since the score is as pretty as the play is grand.

One wonders how audiences of the time could possibly have

endured the thing, especially when an uncut performance, with all of the prologue, five acts and concluding masque, would probably be of *Götterdämmerung* proportions, and especially when one knows from their comedies that Purcell's contemporaries were not lacking in theatrical sophistication.

The answer must be that a tradition has been lost. We know a little of how formalized the acting conventions of late seventeenth-century tragedy were, and we may guess that the music seemed less a decorative appendage when everything was style. To perform *The Indian Queen* without some recompense for that style is bound to be as hopeless as to do a Noh play as if it actually meant something.

The rhetoric, exquisiteness and superb decadence that might make the piece work are, however, beyond the resources of a university society, and one must be grateful for the rare opportunity to glimpse something of *The Indian Queen* at all.

Among the acting cast, David Roberts as Montezuma stands out for his ability to persuade us that there is a real person struggling to get through the cardboard. The singers include Tessa Bonner, who gives a sweet, simple account of the work's hit song, "I attempt from love's sickness to fly". Denis Arnold in the pit does his best with a band inclined to carry Purcell's chromaticism as far forward as Ligeti.

Paul Griffiths

## Berio in charge

Luciano Berio is the new director of the Maggio Musicale in Florence, which opens this year on May 5. The theme of *Orpheus* runs through the festival, and Monteverdi's *Orfeo* will be conducted by Roger Norrington at the Palazzo Vecchio for four performances starting on June 18. A modern transcription of the same work, using pop techniques, will be staged by Luca Ronconi at the Piazza Santa Spirito at the end of June.

Among the orchestras visiting the Maggio are the Philadelphia (conducted by Riccardo Muti), the Israel Philharmonic (Leonard Bernstein) and the Orchestre de Paris (Daniel Barenboim). *Rigoletto*, as previously announced on this page, will be staged by Yuri Lyubimov at the Teatro Comunale. The cast includes Piero Cappuccelli, Edita Gruberova and Peter Dvorský.

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Owen Wingrave has hitherto seemed Britten's least effective opera, but this year's Aldeburgh Festival plans to reinvigorate it. Hilary Hatch reports

## The theatre of undiminished faith

In this summer's Aldeburgh Festival, whose plans were announced yesterday, interest is likely to focus sharply on the Britten-Pears School's new production of *Owen Wingrave*. Britten's operatic adaptation of Henry James's ghostly story of the son who rebels against his family's military tradition is still widely regarded as the most of his operatic brood. Was it an opera for television, or a television opera? How should it find its audience? It intrigued and bewildered its first viewers in 1971, and although it had its champions, was little more at ease when transferred to the swamping space of Covent Garden two years later.

Stuart Bedford, who conducted Wingrave's first stage performance as well as that of *Death in Venice*, and who has been an artistic director of the festival for 10 years, has decided to re-stage Wingrave and bring it back to Snape. How does he defend his decision against charges which continue to be levelled against the work - that the piece, for instance, is crudely propagandist in its exploitation of a mass audience to preach a parable of pacifism and protest?

"Well, Britten never said anything along those lines to me. I think he'd simply been very impressed with Basil Coleman's work on the

television. *Billy Budd*, and then *Grimes*, and, although it had all been wearing, his faith was undiminished. He was glad of a commission which gave him the opportunity to get more things right. I must say I disliked the television concept from the start: the one-sidedness of not being able to choose what one wanted to look at. I felt once we'd got the work into the theatre it was much more successful.

"It may be thought of as Britten's least successful work, but we've had very little chance to savour it in performance and to reappraise it. A lot of course, remains to be solved, yes. The first three scenes are problematical, difficult to get off the ground. And there's one scene in particular, where Wingrave is sitting, interrupted by the Horse Guards. Suddenly it turns into a scene of massacre. The music does it all for you, but it's really difficult to portray on stage. Perhaps one could use cinematic projection. I wonder what Basil Coleman will do in June."

John Piper will be adapting his original scenery for the characteristically skeletal conditions of the Britten-Pears School - end-of-term performance, and there will be two casts of young singers, taking roles, originally created by Benjamin Luxon, Peter Pears, John Shirley-

Quirk, Jennifer Vyvyan, Janet Baker and Heather Harper. The Britten-Pears School has played a large part in the evolving role of the festival. Its presence has encouraged the concept of a complete or in-residence, working with the school and its orchestra. Last year it was Lutoslawski, and this year Toru Takemitsu will give the festival its central focus. "Oliver Knussen is the one who really got that going. Takemitsu is a distinguished composer from another culture, whose music we shall be able to explore through works like *A Folk Deeds* into the *Pentagonal Garden*, to be given its British premiere by the CBSO and Simon Rattle, and in four films for which he wrote the music."

And there is to be more new Britten: a hitherto undiscovered Gerard Manley Hopkins setting to be performed by the BBC Northern Singers. If there is much more to come, Britten waiting to be brought to light? "Well, Donald Mitchell, who has the archives, does find these odd pieces, and I'm sure there are loads of songs still unpublished. But perhaps not a lot more mature stuff. Though who knows? We had great fun three years ago digging out some of the theatre music, and it'll be a long time until that's heard again."

How does Aldeburgh fit into

Stuart Bedford's developing career? "Things took a slightly different turn when the English Music Theatre finally folded, and the opera side of my activity faded a little. I started to go to Seattle, America, and I took most of the English Symphony, which is still an immensely important part of my work. After *The Rape of Lucrece* at the Coliseum, Bedford still professes to be flexible enough to take on a wide variety of work with the National Opera Studio, for instance, taking concerns to Chile, a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in Canada, or a new opera based on a Neruda play for Cologne next season.

"The biggest challenge at the moment is simply to find a programme to build around my *Death in Venice*, suitable for this summer at Aldeburgh. It's a sort of bird's-eye view of the opera - the overture, beach dances, realization of love, interlude, chase, and back to the beach. But we've had terrible difficulties cutting back on the most expensive concertos, and this one needs trombones, tuba, five percussion, as well as the average chamber orchestra. So we have to find other pieces with lots of percussion and only a small complement of strings. I have got some ideas now, and I just hope we might be able to rescue it."

The Dance of Death  
Arts, Cambridge

Strindberg considered *The Dance of Death* to be his best play, and - having seen this production endorsed by the Olivier version - I have never understood why it is thought necessary to take the work in hand and correct its excesses. Nobody thinks of telling them what he ought to have written.

Dürrenmatt's play, *Staatsschwarz*, which converted the piece into a comic sporting event, was one example of this punishing process. Now Ted Whitehead adapts Strindberg's marital prison into one of total claustrophobia, closing up all avenues of escape and ending with a cyclic recap of the opening lines where Edgar and Alice are glumly contemplating another evening in each other's detested company.

In a programme note, Mr Whitehead acknowledges the "enormous influence" of *The Dance of Death* on postwar drama. But the trouble with looking at the piece through a back perspective of Osborne, Albee and Mr Whitehead's own work is that the main attention focuses on the character of Edgar - the victoriously soured captain who hauled himself up through the ranks and married into the gentry. Edgar's dialogue crackles marvelously in Mr Whitehead's version, spraying our army slang and the murderous coynesses of the domestic battlefield. Unfortunately, the same does not go for his wife, Alice or their luckless visitor Kurt, whose language remains untouched by any personal force.

This insistence dictates the quality of Gordon McDougall's Oxford Playhouse production. There is nothing wrong with Barbara Jefford's Alice and David Collings's Kurt except that they are no match for Reginald Marsh's Edgar. What the show presents is an unequal combat between two straight players and a master joker.

Anthony Masters



Kenny Ireland (right) as the beery slob who gets the laughs, with Steven Rimkus

Fortunately for us, these are witty people and the bleak ironies of their interplay are sketched in with the light touch they need. William Gaskill's production has this in hand but, like his recent *She Stoops to Conquer* at this address, is incapably muted. On this big stage, this little play needs more spirit and speed. Most of the laughs went to Kenny Ireland, in his element as the beery slob Eddie pursuing Phil's mother's girlfriend (did you get that?), lurching cockily between catastrophes, a doomed amateur in the boys' semi-criminal demi-monde.

But Steven Rimkus and Douglas Sannathan, only needing a bit more projection to fill out alert and touching portrayals, grasp the essential underpinning element: the dominating commercial sense that makes any job seem like prostitution rewritten, that keeps Eddie's girlfriend stringing him along and even motivates Richard's record purchases. Robert McIntosh expertly doubles a selection of pathetic clients with a very nasty pederastic pimp sporting a Disraeli toupee and a flick knife.

Concert  
Unconventional driveLSO/Lloyd/Mata  
Festival Hall/Radio 3

The Great British Music Festival, having endured some violently unfavourable press criticism and disappointing audiences, lumbered back on Tuesday for its second leg of three concerts, with a programme which was about the most purposeful of the six.

It included a really great British piece, Vaughan Williams's Sixth Symphony, and it presented a new work: George Lloyd's Fourth Piano Concerto slipped through the festival's time limit of 1975 because it was written in outline in 1970, although only scored last year.

From operas for pre-war Covent Garden and the post-war Festival of Britain to market gardening in Dorset and back to full-time composing is a refreshingly unconventional career for a composer and Lloyd's music, too, is refreshingly unconventional in its confidence and drive.

This Concerto is certainly lively, winning from the striding unisons of its opening to the cheerfully Waltonian sequences of the finale, while at times giving a whiff of inter-war British lyricism in the Bliss-Lambert vein and even a touch of light-hearted Stravinsky, in his *Capriccio* mood.

There are some startlingly lovely moments which demonstrate that Lloyd is a composer of real sensibility - none more so than the evaporation of the

first movement shortly before its close into misty harmonies and gentle piano sonorities. That achieved an eloquence that the bigger, self-consciously Rachmaninov-like tunes did not quite attain (and the slow section of the finale was positively sanctimonious by comparison).

At times the writing seems rather crude, as when the piano's spiky running thirds are pitted against a three-note figure in the brass. And there is often an uncomfortable feeling of a lack of direction, both harmonic and stylistic: one feels the music could twist itself into and out of any corner.

The composer directed this exuberant first performance, in which Kathryn Stott played the solo part with quite remarkable forthrightness and command. The LSO seemed to be back on form again: under Eduardo Mata, Walton's *Fantasia* at the start of the concert was a miracle of effectiveness with not a glimmer of content, while Vaughan Williams's Sixth emerged - until the Epilogue lost momentum - as uncommonly strident and angry. It was less a picture of the Second World War than a cry of pain and a lament for a world that war overturned for ever.

## Nicholas Kenyon

● The 1984 Ian Whyte Award for composers has been won by John Marlow. His new work, to be composed for the Scottish National Orchestra, will be premiered in the spring of 1985.

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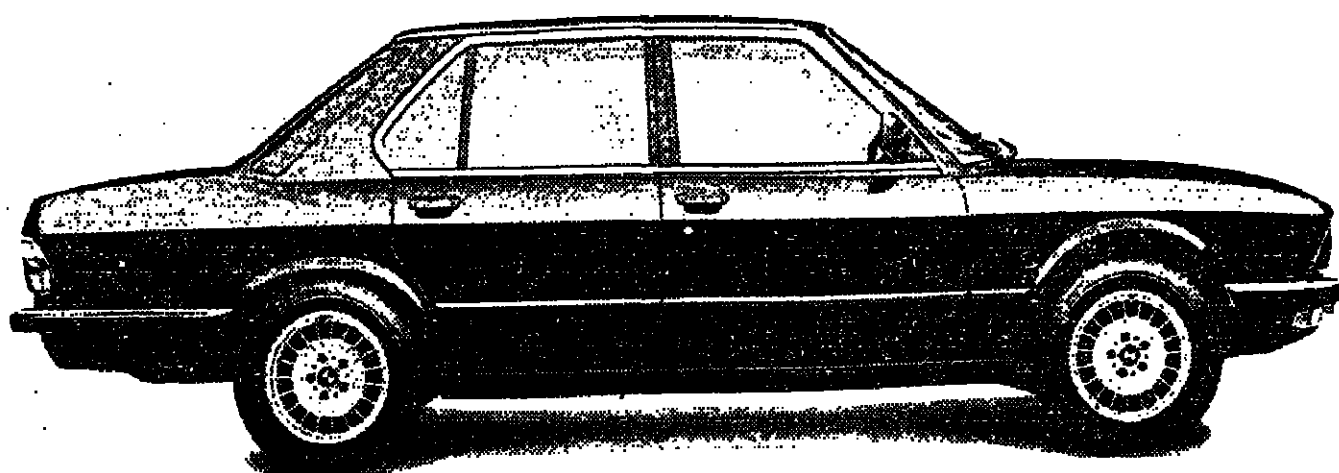
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# Germany's SSoft cell

From West Germany comes a tale that will no doubt be music to the ears of Britain's liberal prison reformers. Tom Bower, author of the successful *Klaus Barbie, Butcher of Lyons*, published last month, was continuing his researches into SS mass-murders, and tracked down one of them to a jail near Hanover. This man, Emil Laurich, now 73, killed countless people at Majanek concentration camp in Poland and, after a somewhat botched trial, is now serving eight years.

Bower phoned the prison governor to ask whether Laurich - known as "The Black Angel" - might agree to an interview. "Why don't you ask him?" came the reply. On inquiring how he might do this from London, Bower was told to ring back in 10 minutes. When he did so found himself talking to Laurich in person. Granting the interview request, Laurich let it be known that today, as on one Thursday every month, he would be receiving a full day's visit from his wife. Hardly surprising, in the circumstances, that prison protests, riots and so on are not common in the Federal Republic.

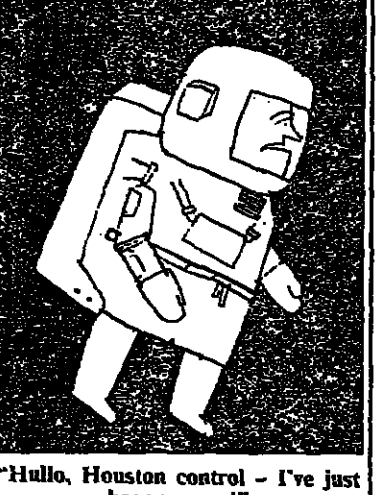
## Socialist realism

London's proudly self-proclaimed "radical socialist borough" of Hackney would be less proud of its financial arrangements, it seems. Some 3,000 council officers in the borough (domestic rate 196.5p in the pound) are paid up to £900 a year, as well as the standard London weighting because of what is known as the "Hackney factor", which is said to make working there difficult. John Beha, the finance director, puts it down to transport problems and pressure of work, but a manager in a neighbouring borough says the main difficulty is Hackney's administrative chaos. The borough's ratepayers may like to know that the head of accountancy, Mike Craig, forecasts a 63 per cent rate rise this year - an extra £6.50 a week from householders. Hackney's committed expenditure for 1984-85 is £101m, about £20m over target, which means that last year's rate support grant of £43m will be cut in half this year under the Government's punitive scheme to curb local authority spending.

## Tony award

Tony Benn is a hard act to follow, as Jonathan Sayeed, the Tory who turned him out of his Bristol East seat at the last election, discovered the other day. In his constituency, Sayeed was approached by an elderly and rather short-sighted woman who clearly did not get with events. Having peered at the MP for some moments she said: "Funny, you know... you don't look mad."

## Barry Fantoni



## Net loss

The SDP are flinging their net far and wide in the search for new recruits. A man in the town of Endicott was surprised to receive from David Owen a questionnaire seeking to discover whether the recipient would be a possible SDP recruit - surprised because Endicott is in the state of New York. Mind you, the SDP played safe by addressing the missive to "New York, North Yorkshire", but the Post Office knew better than that. I know the party promised to change the face of British politics, but surely not the face of the earth?

## Open secret

Our friends at *The Guardian* seem to be undaunted by their chattering experience in the celebrated "stolen secret document" case. In a recent letter soliciting information for a proposed series about the activities of the Special Branch and MI5, two *Guardian* men promise cheerfully: "We would guarantee to protect the source of any such information unless permission was explicitly given to divulge it." Phew, that's a relief.

## Waterborn

From Thames Water comes the information that they believe they were first in the home-video commercial field, to which I referred on Tuesday, Last October, Thames Water (chief executive: Hugh Fish) offered, for £6.50, a two-hour cassette blank except for a 30-minute information film called *The Water People*. More than 500 videos were sold - it could have been thousands if they'd called it *Tales from the Riverbank*, or priced it more realistically.

# How to beat the Treasury

Five years ago, Parliament made a rare attempt to redress the imbalance of power between the weakening world of Westminster and the ever-strengthening power of Whitehall. It set up a series of new select committees, with greatly enhanced powers, of which the Treasury and Civil Service Committee of the House of Commons was easily the most significant. It was advised by a galaxy of economic talent. It could call shadow Treasury mandarins for questioning. It could summon the Governor of the Bank of England. It could recall the Chancellor to give evidence again and again.

## Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor, challenges the parliamentary custom that elder statesmen do not sit on select committees

questioning. Of the newer members, too many lack the experience, expertise or (it must be said) occasionally the application to make an effective team of interrogators.

It is not their fault; it is Parliament's. By tradition, the select committees are made up of backbenchers. This means Labour's chief economic spokesmen, who would live things up no end, do not sit on the Treasury committee (Alliance spokesmen have to take on committee work as well).

On the Tory side, government ministers are more logically, debarred from membership - even unpaid parliamentary private secretaries. So many of the best members of the committee (for example, Kenneth Baker) have been picked off one by one for government jobs. However, there is one distinguished group of backbenchers who could grace the committees and don't.

Most of the great and good former ministers of the Tory party, such as Mr Edward Heath, Sir Ian Gilmour, Mr Geoffrey Rippon and Mr Francis Pym, do not sit on select committees (Mr Humphrey Atkins and Mr Norman St John-Stevens are exceptions). It is arguable that as elder statesmen they should remain above the political fray. But over the past month that is not exactly how these gentlemen have been behaving. If, as it appears, they see their role as making positive criticism of the Government, why do they confine it to the occasional speech and vote? Why not work at it, strengthening Parliament against the executive by sitting on the select committee designed for that purpose?

The Treasury committee is embarking on its most important inquiry yet - on the future of public spending. The fate of the welfare state is an issue on which senior statesmen like to speak their minds. Would it not do wonders for their credibility (and for the strengths of such inquiries) to hear them testing their views against government witnesses?

To suggest that this is too plebeian a role is to give way to the contempt for its own committees which is Parliament's besetting sin. Only when it is seen as an honour for any MP, however distinguished, to sit - and really work - on its main committees will they ever be able to assert themselves against government. There is, of course, another problem; and that is that the Whips considerably influence the selection of committee members, and may naturally be less than keen to pick powerful dissidents.

That is only another reason why the great and good should seek to serve. If the Whips control the committees and place on them mainly young MPs aspiring for promotion, they will never give Parliament an independent voice.

## Richard Owen on new Soviet doubts about the Korean jet disaster



# An air of guilt around Moscow

Moscow. Soon after the Korean Airlines jumbo jet was destroyed by a Soviet missile above Sakhalin Island last September, an air force officer from the Soviet Far East regional command was seen in the bar of Moscow's closed hotel for military personnel. He was alone, according to the story which went round Moscow, and drinking. Some say he was weeping into his vodka.

True or not, the story illustrates the fact that many Russians - including some in the armed forces - did feel guilty about the deaths of 269 passengers on KAL 007. The official line remains that the "regrettable" deaths were caused not by the Soviet Union but by the United States, which had deliberately sent a spy plane into Soviet air space, at a known risk to innocent lives. Many still believe this, and will tell you angrily that President Reagan, regarded as capable of almost any misdeed, organized a "provocation" to smear the Soviet Union and advised ex-President Nixon not to get on the plane knowing it might be shot down.

But doubt is arising, both publicly and behind the scenes, as the political and military lessons of the incident are absorbed by the slowly functioning state apparatus. There was an element of embarrassment, if not guilt, from the very beginning, when the official media tried to pretend the tragedy had not happened and then simply reported that the aircraft had disappeared "in the direction of the Sea of Japan". The phrase became something of a standing joke. A few days later Marshal Nikolai Ogarkov, the chief of staff, was forced to admit, albeit with no trace of regret, that KAL 007 had been hit by a missile fired from a Sukhoi fighter of the Soviet air force.

The incident highlighted the increasingly prominent political role played by the Soviet military, which appeared keen to demonstrate with charts and figures that the jumbo had gone off course in an area bristling with sensitive Soviet military bases and US spy installations alike. But there was no discussion at all of how the jet might have gone astray, why the Americans should use jumbos instead of satellites, whether the Soviet pilot had acted hastily because he was running out of fuel (a common theory among Russians) or why radar defences had been unable to distinguish a 747 from an RC135 spy plane. After a flurry of articles attacking Washington, the press fell silent.

When an inquiry set up by the International Civil Aviation Authority reported two months ago that the plane was not on a spying mission the Kremlin did not react. This was partly because Moscow did not want to draw attention to a report which criticized the Soviet Union for failing to substantiate the espionage charge with concrete evidence, failing to provide the authority with data, and failing to identify the intruder correctly in the first place. Western experts say that because Russian ground-to-air reactions were recorded by Ferret satellites, the Soviet air force persuaded the political leadership to avoid any theory which rested on human error.

So why should the Soviet press have suddenly begun to discuss the subject again instead of conveniently forgetting it? A sinister theory would be that the Soviet military is less than keen on a resumption of Soviet-American "dialogue", in case Moscow makes concessions on arms control, and is therefore bringing the airliner incident back to the forefront instead of quietly burying it.

A more plausible explanation is that military leaders have a nagging determination to prove they were right. *Pravda* started the process last month when it seized on an article in *The Washington Post* which, it said, proved the plane was on a spying mission. It said US officials in the region knew the plane was off course from listening posts and had an hour and half to turn it back. The RC135 reconnaissance plane nearby must have monitored the jumbo's movements, *Pravda* said, and so must have bases in Alaska and Japan and American naval vessels. Moscow had therefore been right to fire at the intruder to defend its borders.

Similarly the *Literary Gazette* has reprinted articles from the western press alleging American complicity, including one from *The Guardian*.

On the other hand, at least as much comment was aroused by a remarkable article by Colonel General Sergei Golubev in the journal *Aviation and Cosmonautics*.

General Golubev, who as air force deputy commander is in charge of training, said "extreme action" against intruders was justified in defence of Soviet airspace, but pilots should make every effort to identify planes properly and force them to land (nothing about pressing missile buttons).

The *Literary Gazette* subsequently attacked "anti-Soviet" commentators for suggesting that General Golubev was expressing doubt about the air defence's reaction on September 1. Soviet sources however say that his remarks do indeed reflect belated Soviet analysis of the disaster.

The impact of the airliner crisis may also be working its way through the civilian aviation structure. At the end of last year the Politburo announced a proposed unified air traffic control system to replace the present regional structure. Such a system, with its nerve centre in Moscow, might have helped avoid the tragedy, experts say. There has also been a shake-up in Aeroflot, which was hit by the western air boycott in the wake of the incident. Boris Bugayev, the Aviation Minister, recently announced that the high number of Aeroflot crashes (most unannounced) was damaging morale, that his deputy was being sacked and that a new civil air transport code would be introduced.

What is not clear is whether this cautious reassessment of the incident will lead to Soviet compensation for American, Australian, Canadian or other victims. When the subject was raised with Andrei Gromyko at the Stockholm conference last month at least one Western foreign minister noted that Gromyko had "not swept it off the table". Given that it was Gromyko who shocked delegates at the preceding Madrid conference in October by saying the Soviet Union was right to shoot down the plane and would gladly do it again, that might be a small but significant shift.

## Spies who key in to the best West new tech

Paris. Waldimar Zolotarev, the junior employee of a Nato agency in Paris who was sentenced to 10 years' jail on Tuesday after being convicted of passing secret alliance documents on to the Soviet Union over a period of 16 years, was probably in himself a fairly insignificant "small time" spy. He seems, nevertheless, to have been an important cog in the vast machine for gathering scientific and technological information from the West which the Russians have built up.

A series of recent discoveries and arrests by French counter-espionage officials, including information relating to the spectacular mass expulsion of 47 Soviet spies from Paris last spring, has enabled the authorities to piece together the most precise and detailed picture to date of this formidable machine, and of the extreme vulnerability of the West, and France in particular, to the transfer to the East of militarily important technologies.

The extraordinarily lax security measures adopted by the advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development (Agard), the Nato agency in Paris where Zolotarev worked from 1959 until his arrest in 1980, were highlighted during his trial, of this naturalized French son of a Russian emigre parents.

Zolotarev's work as Agard consisted chiefly in photocopying and compiling documents, many classified "top secret". It was easy for him to keep a copy for himself or to go through the wastepaper baskets at the end of the day for discarded papers. There was no check on employees as they entered or left the building. As Zolotarev himself said: "It was enough to tempt the devil".

In 1971, after Zolotarev had already been passing secrets to the Russians for eight years, Francis Roussille, a Nato employee who had recommended Zolotarev for the Agard job, was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment for spying for the Romanians. But there was apparently no attempt to check on Zolotarev or to shift him into a less sensitive area of work. He was to continue for a further eight years calmly passing documents and intimate details of the private lives of other Agard employees to his KGB contacts.

M Raymond Nart, a senior French counter-espionage official who acted as the chief witness in the prosecution at Zolotarev's trial, described him as an "important agent" whose work had not been seen in the context of the whole Russian industrial espionage network. One of Zolotarev's contacts, Valentin Lvov, a KGB agent working under the cover of a junior member of the USSR Unesco delegation, was now back in Moscow as head of the KGB section responsible for France, M Nart said.

Anatoli Kouznetsov, another of Zolotarev's KGB contacts, who had used the cover of a second secretary at the Soviet embassy in Paris was expelled from Italy in 1980 after being accused of spying. All were gathering information for the VPK, the Russian commission for military industry.

The key role of this commission, and how it fits into the whole, highly complex, Russian system for gathering scientific and technological information from the West, is described in a little noticed, 14-page article in the December issue of the *Defense Nationale*, a monthly review published by the French Committee for National Defence Studies. The article, signed Henri Regnard, is described as having been written by a "senior civil servant" and is almost certainly the work of one or more senior French counter-espionage officials.

According to the article, the VPK, headed by Leonid Smirnov, one of the vice-presidents of the Soviet Council of Ministers, is composed of the 12 ministries with direct or indirect involvement in the Russian military-industrial complex, and is responsible for sifting and collating specific requests for scientific and technological information from ministries, institutes, and factories, and then formulating them into "research plans".

The author of the article comments wryly that the Soviets have taken to using the West as a data bank for new ideas and advance technology, enabling them to fill gaps in their own knowledge without having to conduct lengthy and expensive research, thereby releasing funds for military programmes.

Russian efforts to obtain western technology are not new but they are now much more sophisticated, systematic, and intense, the article points out.

The systematic combing of western advance technology sectors had enabled the Russians to appropriate a number of elements critical, or potentially critical, to the defence of the free world. The ease of access to scientific and technological information in western democracies and the virtual total freedom in East-West trade relations made the West all the more vulnerable, the article contends.

Analysis of information gathered in France over the past few months had led the author(s) to conclude that "preceding estimates of the scientific and technological standards reached by the USSR, in both the military and civil sectors, must be revised significantly upwards, both in terms of quality and quantity".

The article ends with an urgent call to the West to adopt new measures to protect against "this constantly growing aggression".

# A Tory mood change on nuclear defence

It seems likely that defence and disarmament will attract much more Conservative attention in this parliament than it did in the last. Hitherto, most Tories have been content to try to explain why the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is wrong; why the unilateral abandonment of nuclear weapons would be more likely to jeopardize than to improve the prospects of peace; why the political motivation of so much CND propaganda is suspect. They have been preoccupied with answering the CND's bogus equation between "peace" and the non-negotiated relinquishment of nuclear defences.

Concentration on that point, however, can easily look like a negative position. It can give the impression that Conservatives are comparatively uninterested in thinking positively about means of achieving the negotiated disarmament every sane person wants. But neither morally nor politically can Conservatives allow themselves to be regarded as less concerned than their opponents, or indeed the CND, to achieve the reduction of nuclear arms, provided this can be done by negotiation, and without danger to peace, security and liberty.

The renewed inclination of many backbench Tories to think more actively about the defence-disarmament issue is, therefore, in part a response to the success of the CND in concentrating public attention on the dimensions and horror of nuclear war as propaganda for unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Yet there is a further reason for the renewed backbench interest in thinking about defence and disarmament: the cost of defence and the credibility of Nato in its present form.

In a recent article, I discussed the arguments of some American right-wingers who, although far from pacifist, consider that Nato in its present form is out of date, and that the concept of deterrence (based on a threatened nuclear response to any conventional Soviet invasion of Europe) is no longer relevant. Now that the Soviet Union and the US have parity of nuclear destruction (the argument runs) it is absurd to imagine that the US would take an action which would bring about its own obliteration along with Russia's, simply to save Europe from an invading army. A defence policy relying on Russia's fear that the US might do so is an inadequate defence policy.

According to this reasoning, Europe should pay more for its own conventional defence, even if welfare budgets have to suffer. It is a point of view that in part links with the recent criticism of the European states by Mr Lawrence Eagleburger of the US State Department, who accused them of being self-centred and of refusing to look beyond their own borders. But the argument that Europe (within a reformed Nato) should be able, with the US conventional contribution, to defend itself with less risk of nuclear escalation has two flaws.

The first is that any amount the Europeans spent on their own defence within the limits of feasibility might not suffice in the event of a Russian conventional attack, so that the question whether the US

would or would not involve in nuclear weaponry in the last resort cannot be removed from calculations about European security.

Second, the reigning assumption has been that the European nations even with the best will in the world could not afford the cost of a shift from cheaper nuclear to more expensive conventional defence on a scale anything like sufficient to ensure that it would deter the Russians.

Yet whether and how Nato should be rethought, whether it should, perhaps, be recast to cover the whole of the western democratic world, and not merely the Atlantic, and what can best be done to contain defence costs without risk to security are now all questions asked more widely on the backbenches.

Most Tories would reject the idea of a basic shift from nuclear to conventional weapons on grounds of cost. Yet they also recognize that cost problem exists already. In the context, there will be much interest in the conclusions just published of a group of defence experts, the British Atlantic Committee (among them Sir Frank Cooper, until recently permanent head of the defence ministry) who believe that new technology makes possible a non-nuclear, and therefore, more credible, European defence without a significant increase in spending.

But above all there is the need to reduce the sheer weight of nuclear weapons by negotiation. Some Tory backbenchers are therefore thinking about the possibility of offering the Russians the non-aggression pact which they had asked, while continuing to press for balanced force reductions, which is the real answer to the unilateralists. When the Conservative back-bencher, Mr Michael Latham, recently (January 24) asked the Foreign Secretary in the Commons whether Nato would consider a new draft treaty on no first use of any weapons by either side, Sir Geoffrey Howe simply reiterated Nato's declared position that it would never use any weapons except in response to attack.

But no Tory would dissent from Mrs Thatcher's view that we must negotiate with the Russians, but take care neither to expect too much nor be lured into unilateral concessions. Ultimately, the socialist system of the Soviet Union will remain inimical to ours because, whatever compromises they may agree to for convenience and to avoid war, the Russian leaders never lose sight of their ultimate aim: the wide imposition of the political system on which their power rests.

For the West, negotiation is important to alleviate tension, lessen the danger and cost of weapons, and to assure the captive peoples of the East that we bear them no enmity. The shift of emphasis in the United States on the question of arms negotiation will evoke a response in Britain. In the coming months, thinking and speaking about defence and negotiated disarmament is likely to be a Tory party to involve more than simply answering CND back in Britain, as in the US, it may well be a subject on which the party of the right is better equipped to make pragmatic progress without risk to security than the party on the left.

## John P. Harris

# The sorry story of a statue called Stefanik

Paulhan, Hérault, France. Here we are, in the village of Paulhan - population 2,500 - producing wine and big mild onions. Please observe the statue on your left. A pioneer aviator, with goggles and helmet, cheerful, larger than life, on a 10-foot high plinth, HONNEUR, PATRIE and DEVOIR on front and sides of the plinth. No names. An unusual war memorial.

You are jumping to conclusions. The war memorial is down that street, in front of the out-of-use railway station. Try asking the first 10 natives who this aviator is. One has never thought about it, two say it is a statue, sort of, like *c'est une statue, oui, hein*; three say it is a statue, sort of, like *c'est une statue, oui, hein*; three say it is a statue, sort of, like *c'est une statue, oui, hein*.

Louis Paulhan, the first man to fly from London to Manchester, thus winning the £10,000 *Daily Mail* prize. That was in April 1910. Paulhan only just beat out Grahame White to it. When Paulhan had put his Farman biplane together, in a field near Edgware, it was 5 pm, and White had abandoned his attempt because of the wind. But it grew a little calmer, and Paulhan took off and wobbled over the official starting line at Highgate cemetery before White knew what was happening. They both followed the railway lines. When it got too dark to fly, Paulhan landed at Lichfield. Madame Paulhan joined him by special train, and they spent the night at an hotel, being called at 2.30 for a dawn start.

White had landed near a signalman's hut at Road, 60 miles back, and when he started before dawn, he was lit by car headlights, and navigated by moonlight. But at 4 am, when gusts of wind had turned him around three times, he landed at Polesworth. At that moment, 10 miles nearer Manchester, Paulhan was taking off. He pelted along at 40 mph in the cold drizzle, and to the cheers of thousands landed at Mr Braecliffe's farm at New Burnage, the official finishing point, at 5.30 that morning.

White sent a telegram: "The better man has won". Paulhan said that White had had bad luck. The French papers said, "The race exemplifies the *entente cordiale* in realm of progress... the three triumphant men are Paulhan, White and Lord Northcliffe" (£10,000 was not to be sneezed at in those days).

and everyone was happy. There is now a plaque commemorating the feat, at Manchester airport.

Actually, Paulhan was born six miles down the road from the town, with his name, at Pèzenas. Nineteen eighty-three was the centenary of Paulhan's birth, and last year they unveiled a bust in the park. Let's go and have a look.

He doesn't look a bit like the other aviator. Of course not. You keep jumping to conclusions. The aviator, at Paulhan, General Stefanik, a Slovakian poet, scientist, and of course aviator. He flew and fought as a volunteer with the French forces in the First World War. With Masaryk and Benes he founded the Czechoslovak republic in 1918, and was killed the next year in an aeroplane accident. A most able and interesting man.

Certainly. But what is he doing in this village in the Languedoc? Let us return to our statue. Go around to the back of the plinth. What does it say there, in small letters?

Well, it doesn't say Stefanik anywhere. What it says is *MONUMENT ERIGE EN 1911 A LA LOIRE DES ARMÉES DE LA REVOLUTION*. Paul Pelissier, député maire l'Union des Français, adjoint. I don't see the connexion.

Don't you? It's quite simple. In 1911 they put up a fine bronze group on this plinth - the warlike Stefanik and so forth. Very edifying. In the last war the Germans were short of non-ferrous metals. They found a rich source in French statues. Some town councils managed to bury their statues before the non-ferrous metal squads arrived.

For example, the splendid statue of the drummer-boy of the battle of Arcole, at Cadzand, where the boy came from, spent 18 months at the bottom of the duck pond. But the people of Paulhan were not quick enough off the mark, and so they lost the Armies of the Revolution.

So in 1945 they just had a bare plinth. And they asked Paris for something to put on it. Paris had a spare Stefanik, and put him on a goods train. The station was open in those days.

But what had Stefanik to do with the village? He was a statue, that's what. It seems hard on Stefanik. They could at least put his name on the plinth. Perhaps they will, now the power of the press. Think what Northcliffe's *Daily Mail* got Paulhan to do.

Diana Geddes

P.O. Box  
The writer of the article on Stefanik is John P. Harris, who is a well-known author and journalist. The article is a humorous and detailed account of the statue of Stefanik in Paulhan, France, and the history of the village and the statue. The article is written in a light, conversational style, and includes many anecdotes and details about the statue and the village. The article is a good example of the type of writing that is common in the Times, and it is a pleasure to read it. The article is a good example of the type of writing that is common in the Times, and it is a pleasure to read it.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## A BATTLE LOST

The withdrawal of the multinational peacekeeping force from Lebanon is a severe setback for Western diplomacy. The mission of the force was to prop up Mr Gemayel's government while creating a stable environment for internal reconciliation and the negotiated withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces. The mission has failed. Instead we have turbulence, uncertainty and the ominous sight of Shiite fanatics removing alcohol from West Beirut. The May 17 agreement has probably gone for good, taking with it any immediate hope of Israeli withdrawal, let alone the wider hope of a Lebanon without any foreign armies. Gone, too, is another slice of the credibility of Western support for friendly governments in the Middle East and elsewhere. Syria emerges stronger, and the Soviets happier as they send a top man to Damascus. Mr Reagan may be electorally strengthened by being freed of the unpopular burden of keeping his marines in Lebanon, but it will still be difficult to conceal the fact that his Middle East policies are as battered as the buildings of Beirut.

There are still a few optimists around mainly in Washington, who believe that something can still be salvaged from past hopes, that the shock of withdrawal may bring Mr Gemayel and others to see the need for reconciliation, that the shells of the American navy will discour-

age the Syrians from pressing their advantage too far, that somebody - perhaps even the Syrians - may yet give the Israelis the assurances they need to withdraw. After all, it is pointed out, Mr Gemayel is still president (of a few acres) with a substantial army in support, while the Syrians and the Russians know they would be unlikely to have a better chance than the Americans of controlling the fractious politics of Lebanon. So why not plug on with the same policies, lobbying shells in support of Mr Gemayel from the apparent safety of sea?

However, it seems more realistic to assume that there will have to be some more fundamental re-thinking. Mr Gemayel has lost his chance to negotiate reconciliation from a position of strength. Whether this is his fault or that of the Americans, who did not push him, is largely irrelevant. He now negotiates - if at all - from a position of weakness. Meanwhile Syria has even less reason than before to be accommodating, having demonstrated that it can afford to ignore American pressures. The Soviets too, have no good reason to use their influence on behalf of compromise at this stage. They will first wish to rub salt in Western wounds. After that they will want to use their advantage to win a place for themselves at any future negotiating table. But they are likely to be cautious. They have been

made acutely aware by Iran and Afghanistan of the uncontrollable fires that can burn within the Muslim breast. They will not wish to fan the flames too much.

Hence there remains a chance that the situation will not become worse than it already is. That is not saying much; but then Lebanon has suffered this particular agony for eight years now. Probably there is very little more that the Western powers can now do in Lebanon itself. They should avoid further direct intervention and concentrate on achieving a bloodless withdrawal of American and other forces.

Efforts to retrieve the situation will have to be pursued elsewhere on a wider diplomatic canvas, taking in other Arab countries and Israel. Whether the United Nations can play a useful role at this stage is doubtful. A United Nations force would either have to be large enough to dominate the whole of Lebanon, which is out of the question, or it would have to be accepted by all the relevant factions in Lebanon as well as all members of the Security Council, which presupposes a political agreement which is still out of sight. Probably, therefore, it is time for the foot soldiers of diplomacy to do some hard slogging before the ground can be cleared sufficiently for grand strategies to emerge. Meanwhile Beirut burns, and the Syrian must smile.

## SITTING ON A SECRET

Sir Geoffrey Howe had a rough ride yesterday morning before the Commons Select Committee on Employment. He had endured a tough two weeks since surprising the House with his statement announcing the deunionization of the government Communications Headquarters. The Employment Committee's interest is welcome. It is right and proper that an all-party group of MPs should be the setting in which the pros and cons of the Cheltenham affair are argued at greater length. How much better it might have been for all concerned - the guardians of national security and the guardians of civil liberty alike - if a forum for ventilating the choices and the wider issues involved in securing continuity of production at GCHQ could have been found before Sir Geoffrey took the House and the bulk of his Cabinet colleagues by surprise on January 25.

There are cynics in Whitehall who suggest that the usual leaks of official information, for once, failed to live up to their reputation. If the word had been spilled a week or so before Sir Geoffrey rose at the despatch box, the critics and defenders of the Cheltenham decision could have started up the engines of claim and counter-claim in advance of an announcement and the greater shambles of the past fortnight might have been avoided. The senior bureaucracy can sometimes be too worldly-wise for its own good.

In terms of pre-statement discussion, alerting the full Cabinet to the thinking of the Prime Minister's tiny ad hoc ministerial group on the deunionization of GCHQ could only have been an advantage. The quality of Cabinet government should not be at the mercy of an exaggerated paranoia about leaks. But wider Cabinet consultation would not have been enough. Thanks partly to the nation's rich literature of spy novels, large sections of the public are convinced that Ministers disinform on security and intelligence issues as a matter of routine. The spectre of the polished Sir Oliver Lacon, the Cabinet Office's coordinator of security and intelligence in the Smiley novels, fixing his Minister and avoiding any public unseemliness, however appalling the setbacks of the Circus, is etched on the public consciousness.

What is needed is some utterly secure body, trusted by those in the outer as well as the inner circles of public life, to give its seal of probity to the Government on contentious issues as they arise. The Security Commission does that. But it can only conduct post-mortems into past security lapses. It could not have helped Mrs Thatcher in March, 1981 when the Hollis affair erupted. Nor could it have been used as a sounding board for the Cheltenham decision. A new body is required.

The model is easy enough to

find - the Falkland Islands Review Committee of 1982. The Prime Minister trusted Lord Franks and his fellow Privy Counsellors to see every scrap of paper on the subject produced by Whitehall and its intelligence organizations from 1965 to April, 1982. Why not establish a permanent equivalent of the Franks Committee? A joint House of Commons-House of Lords Select Committee of Privy Counsellors on security and intelligence, made up of former prime ministers, foreign, defence and home secretaries would be trusted by middle opinion, which at the moment is distinctly uneasy about the GCHQ decision, if not by those who inhabit the fantasy world of the hard left.

It would have been to Sir Geoffrey's advantage to make his first Select Committee appearance on Cheltenham not before the Employment Committee but before such a group of Privy Counsellors. If he had managed to convince them, they could have reported to that effect on the day the Commons statement was made. If not, they might have persuaded him either to think again before the issue was made public with all the potential loss of face that involved, or at least to polish up the presentation of his case. That his case is fundamentally a good one is a secret almost as closely guarded by Sir Geoffrey as all the other secrets he is trying to protect.

## LIFTING THE ZONE

Britain and Argentina have been groping towards a modus vivendi over the Falkland Islands ever since President Raul Alfonsin and his civil administration came to power in December. Each has now clarified its position and illuminated the path which would like to pursue towards a happier, more stable relationship. These paths may not converge completely while sovereignty is claimed by both sides, but they can run in close parallel, to the advantage of both sides and of the islanders themselves.

The British approach is to move cautiously as always from the bottom upwards, tackling first those issues over which there should be little real dissent - like the restoration of commercial links and a more satisfactory long-term arrangement over the Argentine war graves. Mutual confidence should then grow through closer contact and slowly but surely both parties could return to the status quo ante - albeit with the central issue unresolved, as it had been for 150 years before the invasion.

This may not be fast enough for President Alfonsin. The military in Argentina may be

politically discredited, but it remains a force to which the new civil administration cannot afford to turn a blind eye. President Alfonsin needs to demonstrate his power to make progress by peaceful means - as well as his own determination not to be cowed by British refusals to negotiate on his terms.

While these conversations continue through diplomatic third parties, it may seem strange for either party to make public gestures or declarations of any kind, such as President Alfonsin's six-point plan last week proposing a United Nations force. But Britain should not be deterred by these "noises-off" from herself seriously considering a gesture which would demonstrate Britain's confidence in the new civilian rulers in Buenos Aires. That is to lift the 150-mile protection zone around the islands.

The orthodox Whitehall view is that this should not be agreed unless Argentina declared simultaneously a formal ceasefire. The zone, it has been argued, is a necessary security measure and

moreover a bargaining counter for which some similar quid pro quo should be exacted. But now that negotiations would seem to have started, this could be considered over-cautious, given that the security situation does not demand it.

It is unlikely that Argentina would take advantage of such a step to threaten the Falklands, and in the present political climate it is a risk worth taking anyway.

The removal of the zone would be more likely to secure a declaration over the end of hostilities than would the maintenance of it. To dispense with it would ease the workload on the British garrison - and might indeed enable it to be reduced without implying any diminution in British resolve. Moreover it would show the international community that Britain recognizes how how much encouragement President Alfonsin needs to consolidate his new power, and that Britain is thus prepared to make the running in the negotiations to achieve greater stability in the South Atlantic.

Although the united defence system of the Commonwealth disintegrated at the start of the 1950s, the special relations of these countries with Britain in the military sphere still remain. Officers from many countries of the Commonwealth are trained at British military educational establishments. British instructors on the spot are engaged in training the armed forces of the countries of the Commonwealth, the majority of which still depend on deliveries of British weapons. It must be noted that Britain continues to have a strong ideological influence on these countries. A whole system has been elaborated which allows such a policy to be conducted. A special service, the British Council, is engaged in this. Britain continues to implement control of the press, radio, television, higher education, and the development of science and technology of the countries of the Commonwealth.

On the whole one can say that Britain has been able to adapt better than other colonial states to the disintegration of its empire. Yours etc, ELIZABETH YOUNG, 100 Bayswater Road, W2, January 26.

## The Soviet view

From Mrs Elizabeth Young  
Sir, Mr Enoch Powell writes (feature, January 26): "The Commonwealth is not... an entity at all except in make-believe." The Soviet view is different. Last year a listener to the Moscow Home Service programme, "International Situation: Questions and Answers", was told that:

...the Commonwealth is a complicated association of independent states and also dependent territories...

## Making marriages real and actual

From Canon G. B. Bentley  
Sir, If marriage is to be made terminable after only one year, I think it would be sensible to make it voidable rather than dissoluble. A marriage that comes to grief during the first "honeymoon" year may be said to have crashed on the runway and failed to get off the ground and it seems reasonable to infer from the disaster that it must have been gravely defective *ab initio*.

It could be that the parties' knowledge of each other had been so defective that in effect they committed themselves to figments of their imagination and not to actual persons. Or they may have entertained a false image of marriage and cohabitation and found themselves unable to cope with the reality. Or again it could be that one or other of them was quite simply unfit for marriage. Whatever the cause, no real and actual marriage has been achieved.

In my opinion there is much to be said for treating the first year of marriage as integral to its "making". Consensus *facit matrimonium* is true in the sense that when vows are exchanged a putative marriage comes into existence; but that marriage remains in potentiality until it is actualized by consummation and cohabitation.

Parliament recognized that when it made marriage voidable on the ground of wilful refusal to consummate. What I am suggesting is that failure to achieve satisfactory cohabitation during the first year should be made an additional ground.

Yours faithfully,  
G. B. BENTLEY,  
5 The Cloisters,  
Windsor Castle,  
Berkshire,  
February 6.

## Privilege at risk

From the Reverend J. P. Haldane-Stevenson

Sir, Following a verbal attack in the South Australian Parliament on a sitting royal commission the Australian Government is proposing to legislate "to abrogate or otherwise affect" state parliamentary privileges, particularly of free speech. Representations in writing were invited and Senate committee hearings will shortly be held.

Freedom of speech has hitherto been subject only to the various Parliaments' own rules. Unsuitable comment on sitting royal commissions could surely be contrived by voluntary extension of the *sub judice* rule. The present proposal is of concern to the whole British Commonwealth. Yours faithfully,  
J. P. HALDANE-STEVENS,  
3 Argyle Square,  
Ainslie Avenue,  
Canberra 2601,  
Australia,  
January 28.

## Support for dissidents

From Mr Alexander Zinoviev

Sir, May I make one correction of Alan Hamilton's article (January 19) about my "gloomy logic." He reports me as saying about the Soviet dissident movement: "many people in the West supported the dissident movement believing they could bring about change in the Soviet Union. They failed utterly." So far correct.

"All they did was to provide the Soviet government and the KGB with valuable experience in dealing with dissidents." This last sentence does not describe my opinion. Failure to change the system should not deter the West from protesting. If it is to be its true self, it must oppose injustice and arbitrary rule everywhere. Moreover, protests do sometimes gain freedom for the victims.

Yours faithfully,  
ALEXANDER ZINOVIEV,  
Normanstrasse 25,  
Munich 81,  
West Germany,  
January 19.

## Sellafield discharge

From Dr B. O. Wade

Sir, The assertion that "scientists do not know how dangerous radiation in its various forms is" by Ms Lesley Abdela (January 16) is inconsistent with a considerable body of scientific evidence.

It is well established from a number of investigations that we can detect no deleterious effects from the natural background radiation, present in a variety of forms throughout the evolution of the human race and varying significantly between different locations.

It is also well established that substantial groups exposed to radiation in many forms at levels generally several hundred times greater than the natural background, in the course of occupational, military and medical activities,

## Aerial photographs

From Professor D. W. Rhind and Professor R. U. Cooke

Sir, The President of the Council for British Archaeology was right to express concern over the future of the Central Register for Aerial Photography (January 21). The air photographs recorded in this register provide both an irreplaceable source of historical information and basic data needed for much planning and research.

But Mr Hassall confounds two distinct, though related, aspects of the problem. The register is an index, not a library. Many of the million or more air photographs recorded in the register have never been held centrally (although some of those which were have already been re-distributed to their originating organisations). It is the index itself, not the actual photography, which is the critical element

## Crucial questions before a summit.

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighton Pavilion (Conservative)

Sir, In his article, "A breathing space to think afresh" (January 20), David Watt concedes the difficulty of holding a dialogue between the superpowers while President Andropov is out of action and President Reagan is campaigning. He goes on to suggest some crucial questions on which we ought to focus in the interval before any summit meeting takes place.

May I attempt a contribution to answering these?

1. How expansionist is the Soviet Union?

The history of Russia is one of expansion. The Czars expanded into the Caucasus, central Asia and Siberia. Stalin, postwar, expanded into Eastern Europe and, for a time, into China. Khrushchev reconquered Hungary and established Soviet influence over Cuba. Brezhnev reconquered Czechoslovakia, occupied Angola, Ethiopia, Aden and Afghanistan. Together they have developed an ocean-going navy and long-range military transport force.

The track record speaks for itself, but there is also a deep-seated reason for this expansionist dynamic. Successive Russian regimes have rested on the power of the military, and the reason d'être of the military is to expand. Stalin, between the wars, when he turned his back on world revolution, shot the generals by the hundred.

The military-industrial complex has become by far the most powerful as well as the most privileged economic and social force in the Soviet Union, with virtually absolute control over the allocation of resources.

To be sure, the Americans also have a powerful military-industrial complex, but the President and Congress do not depend on it for their physical protection against their own people. The US Army is not a Pretorian Guard. The Red Army is.

Any realistic Western statesman must therefore regard the Soviet

Union as a dynamic power driven by its own structure as much as by its ideology.

2. How far are we trying to change the Soviet system and how far merely to manage the status quo? The two succeed in containing Soviet expansionism, or rolling it back where it is not already established, (e.g. Afghanistan), then the absolute priority which the Soviet military now enjoy in the allocation of resources will lose much of its justification.

Pressures will grow for improvements in living standards and for greater independence for the subject nationalities and Moscow's allies. This in turn would tend to lead to the relaxation of the central control which prevails over the whole of Soviet society today.

Soviet society as it now exists must expand or change drastically. If our objective is to halt its expansion we shall be encouraging changes in the status quo even if that is not our main intention.

3. How far dare we bring the Russians into collaboration in areas of Third World crisis like the Middle East?

If there are crises in the Third World, as distinct from underlying causes of discontent, this is mainly because the Soviets have chosen to involve themselves in them. How then do we deal with their involvement?

Short of an agreed withdrawal of both superpowers in favour of the United Nations there are probably only two options available. One is to bring about the withdrawal of the Soviets from the main crisis areas.

The other is to agree their partition into spheres of interest such as the Western powers agreed with Hitler at Munich or later with Stalin at Yalta. In neither case did Western concessions do much to dampen the appetite for expansion. Let him that readeth understand.

Yours faithfully,  
JULIAN AMERY,  
112 Eaton Square, SW1,  
January 26.

## Indo-China rebels

From Mr Graham Greene, CH.

Sir, I have the impression that Mr Louis Allen (January 24) is only half informed about the situation in Hanoi when Trevor Wilson was made persona non grata by General de Lattre.

It is quite true (I once had a conversation with Monsieur Soustelle on the subject) that the American OSS were not trusted in Algeria by the French authorities. The OSS were playing the silly game of finding a non-existent Third Force, as they also did in Vietnam, a force which would be anti-Communist and anti-French (colonialist).

This had nothing to do with Trevor Wilson in Vietnam. For his services in Algeria during the war he had been decorated by General de Gaulle.

When the Chinese forces occupying Haiphong were proposing to resist the landing of General Leclerc, Wilson, as British Consul General in Hanoi, gave a lift in his jeep under the British flag to General Salan, whose uniform was hidden in the boot. The General put it on after his arrival at the Chinese headquarters.

## M25 land values

From Mr David Richards

Sir, The rise in property values along the M25 motorway, reported by your Property Correspondent (January 25), is as inevitable as was the rise in oil company share prices following the discovery of North Sea oil.

The only difference is that the capital gains in the latter case accrued to those whose capital provided the breakthrough, whereas in the former case they will accrue to property owners completely external to the production process.

The financial returns to the taxpayer's investment in the M25 and in all such projects are the land values arising. Yet the amounts that

and successfully arranged a peaceful landing for General Leclerc.

Whether in the eyes of history this was to prove a good thing, who can say? Certainly that moment Trevor Wilson rendered a signal service to France, which General Salan did not forget.

General de Lattre was another matter. In 1951 Trevor Wilson and I had visited the Bishop of Phat Diem, who had a private army of a sort aiding the French.

Unfortunately, before my return to Indo-China de Lattre had, for personal reasons, attached his son to a Vietnamese company fighting with the French in the Bishop's region, and he had been killed in an ambush. De Lattre, a sick man, connected his death with our visit to the bishop. Here were three dubious Catholics somehow getting together...

In the three years that followed I had, as a correspondent of *The Sunday Times* and the *Figaro*, excellent relations with General Salan, but the damage had been done as far as Trevor Wilson was concerned.

Yours truly,  
GRAHAM GREENE,  
Anibes.

are recovered for the relief of the taxpayer through development land tax are desisory.

Is it not amazing that we should continue to allow the financial viability of huge capital projects to be determined in this way? How much better off would this country be if the land values arising externally from all economic activity were immediately recovered for the relief of the taxpayer by an annual charge on land rents, such as site value rating or its national equivalent?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID RICHARDS,  
78 Parkfields Road,  
Bridgend,  
Mid Glamorgan,  
January 26.

show an enhanced rate of fatal malignancies in the region of 1 per cent.

Whilst we do not understand the fine detail of the process at the cellular level responsible for this radiation induction of malignancies - if we did we might be well on the way to finding a cure - there can be no doubt that we know sufficient to limit the risk from radiation exposure to any level we choose. Moreover, we can measure radiation levels with great sensitivity, down to levels far below those of concern to health.

The clear intention of the internationally recommended protection measures is to ensure that the radiation risk to the general public is negligible; the available scientific evidence is quite adequate for this purpose. These protection measures are enforced in this

country by the mandatory authorities to safeguard the health of the public in a manner analogous to the way they safeguard our water and food supplies.

In the case of radiation, the practical result is that no member of the public is exposed to more extra radiation dose than might be received by moving from one part of the country to another where the natural background is higher. The associated risk is known to be quite negligible, demonstrating that the intention is being achieved.

Yours faithfully,  
B. O. WADE,  
Environmental and Medical Sciences Division,  
UK Atomic Energy Authority,  
AERE Harwell,  
Oxfordshire,  
January 20.

## Ravaged relics of our rural heritage

From Mr Peter V. Addyman

Sir, Lest it should be thought that the ravaging of the country heritage described by Lord Melchett and others (February 6) be confined to East Anglia, or that its effects be confined to the natural environment and landscape, I hasten to report to you an horrific description given to Group 4 of the Council for British Archaeology last weekend on the ravaging of our Yorkshire landscape as seen through the lens of an archaeological air photographer.

In photograph after photograph we were shown the effects of deep ploughing, which was evidently paring a fresh layer off long-buried ancient monuments each year, to be deposited upside down on the field surfaces and photographed in the brief moment before dispersal.

There were deserted medieval villages, formerly considered prime examples of their type, now bulldozed flat and spread across the landscape. There were whole ancient landscapes, no longer enjoying the subtle protection provided by mature hedge systems, themselves the artefacts of a millennium of landscape development, being wiped from the face of the country.

The group also heard that, through some extraordinary loophole in the ancient monuments legislation, even certain scheduled ancient monuments, long protected by statute, could now legally be flattened, as hideously happened on January 9 this year to the formerly well preserved earthworks of the grange of St Mary's Abbey, York, at Foston, near Malton.

It is evident that the present secretaries of state for the environment and for agriculture are between them jointly presiding over what is for some areas the final destruction of the historical landscape. One of them, aided by EEC agricultural grants, is even financing the holocaust.

Can we hope that the new Commission on Historic Buildings and Monuments, which will come into being on April 1, will have courage enough, and teeth sufficiently strong, to fight for what little remains?

Yours faithfully,  
PETER V. ADDYMAN,  
Vice-President, Council for British Archaeology,  
112 Kennington Road, SE11,  
February 6.

## Non-unionism at GCHQ

From Mr S. C. Silkin, QC

Sir, During the "winter of discontent" the Callaghan Government was fighting a desperate battle to restrain the evil of rising inflation. Unlike the Thatcher Government it had a walter-thin majority dependent on other parties. Unlike the Thatcher Government its policy was not buttressed by three million unemployed.

That was the time chosen by the Tory Opposition, with Sir Geoffrey Howe in the forefront, to challenge the Government's constitutional right to use its sole lawful power in aid of its policy, the use of financial sanctions and the withholding of Government contracts from employers who flouted the policy.

Today the Tory Government, with Sir Geoffrey Howe in the forefront, uses financial sanctions and the withholding and termination of Government employment from employees who flout the Government policy of non-unionism at GCHQ. The only difference is that the pill is sweetened (or possibly poisoned) by the offer of a bribe of £1,000 to accept without fuss.

The result of the Tory Opposition's challenge to Labour's social policy is part of history. The Labour Government had neither the time nor the majority to legislate. The Thatcher Government has always had the majority. It plainly has had and still has the time.

Legislation to remove from GCHQ employees' rights not previously challenged would have ended the issue to be debated where it should be, in Parliament. Any suggestion that security considerations prevented the adoption of this course and justified executive action which in opposition Sir Geoffrey castigated as unconstitutional would be naive in view of the foreseeable outcry generated by the Government's action.

To echo a *Times* leader headline which remains in my personal recollection after some eight years, is it not a case of "Sir Geoffrey then and Sir Geoffrey now"? It is for Sir Geoffrey to explain and justify the removal by executive action, aided by a paltry and insulting bribe, of a long-standing right to belong to a trade union - a right, moreover, which is enshrined in the clearest terms in the European Convention on Human Rights.

Why was the apparently unconsulted Cabinet not asked at least whether it would support legislation to remove an accepted right now considered to be a source of national danger?

Yours faithfully,  
S. C. SILKIN,  
The Croft,  
The Green, East End,  
North Leigh, Witney,  
Oxfordshire.

## Cross words

From Mr John Frith

Sir, "Maybe," says Dr Charles Cruickshank (February 6), "your readers can add to the list."

With pleasure, although not from the OED but from Professor Einar Haugen's excellent Norwegian-English dictionary (Universitetsforlaget, Oslo, 1963):

"Kanskje blir vi ferdig med denne ordboka en gang - maybe we'll finish this dictionary some time."

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN FRITH,  
70 Clarence Road,  
Teddington, Middlesex.



In harmony: Antal Dorati, the conductor, and his wife, Ilse von Alpenheim, the concert pianist, celebrating her birthday, which falls on Saturday, during rehearsals with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Festival Hall yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)



# Television's new horizon

Britain is poised on the brink of an entertainment and communications revolution

The new age of television has dawned, at least the proponents of multichannel cable television would have us believe. Every indication suggests that, say the supporters of wide band cable networks, it will be a vehicle for carrying television pictures, information, banking services and a plethora of facilities brought to the viewer at the touch of a switch. At least that is the theory.

The practice is about to begin in earnest this year, putting pressure on the finances of the conventional broadcasting channels in the process. Eleven companies have already been granted franchises to operate multichannel systems, probably with a capacity of about 30 channels, while another 11 have been given permission to expand their existing systems.

The awarding of these licences is the completion of the first phase of the plan to introduce the technology in Britain. It does not indicate that cable has succeeded but merely that it has arrived.

But the completion of the first phase in the award of the franchises is a minor political coup which took more than two years to complete. The Information Technology Advisory Panel of the Cabinet Office started the debate on cable in the spring of 1981 and it was a debate which was to become decidedly acrimonious.

Supporters of the "revolution in high technology" were hailed, by themselves, as forward thinkers and those who opposed them as outdated Luddites. Opponents of the cable on the other hand preached caution and warned that the quality and the finances of public broadcasting were in jeopardy if the cable operators were allowed to function unbridled. Neither side has been proved right.

That compromise arose because the interests of the Home Office and the Department of Trade and Industry were in conflict. The former wished to ensure that it was able to police the programming content of the new networks in the defence of the public good.

The Department of Trade and Industry, however, seemed more interested in relaxing the constraints that had previously shackled cable networks in Britain and use the expansion of these networks to stimulate the British electronics industry.

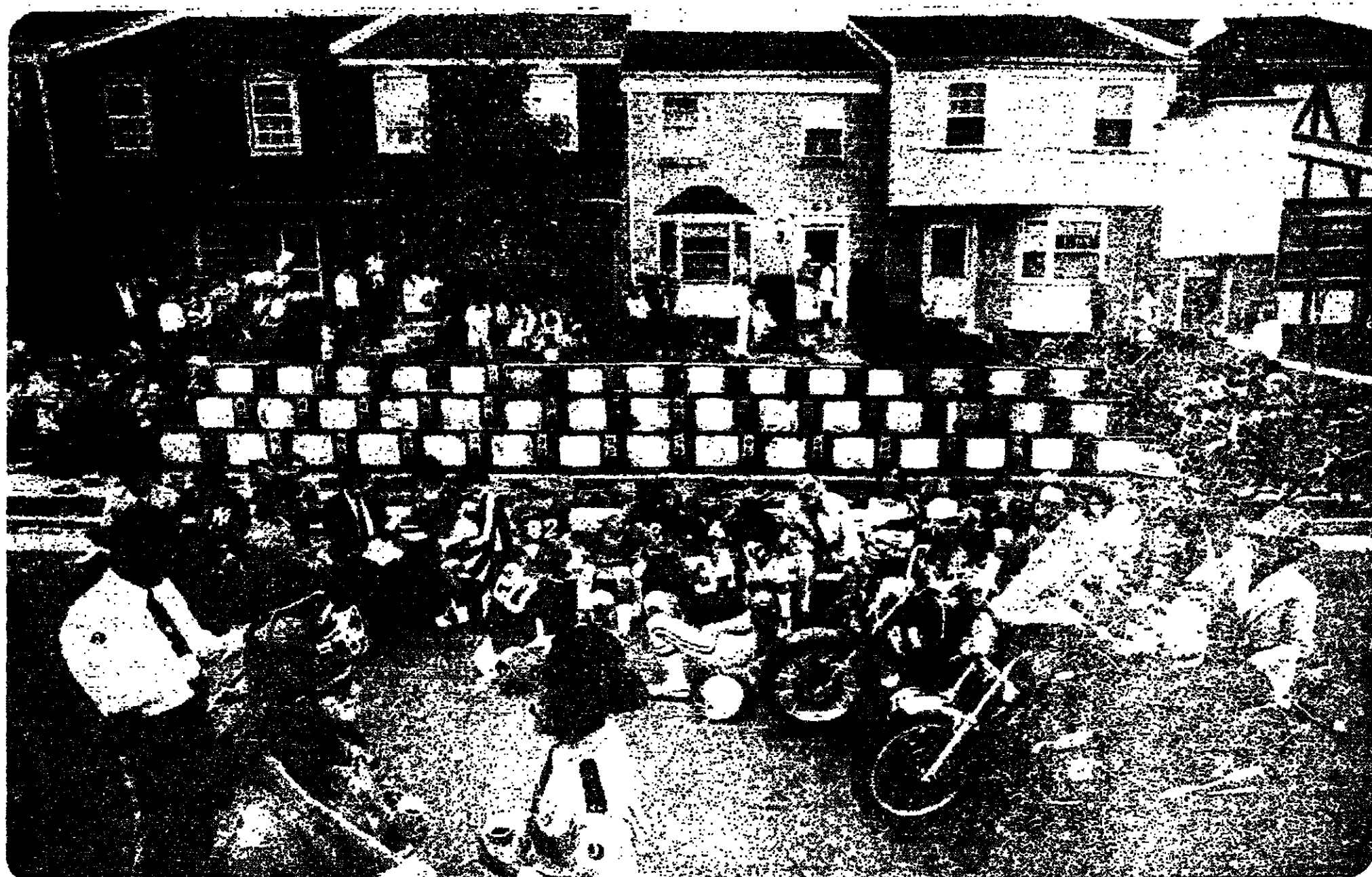
The 11 multichannel franchises were agreed to sustain the political momentum but the networks will not be in operation until a new cable authority, with a brief to police the networks, is firmly in place.

Satellites, with low and high power, are critical to the cable revolution. The Government as yet has been unable to unravel the complexities that result from satellite transmission. The policy on broadcasting by satellite was principally geared towards Direct Satellite Broadcasting (DSB) by which programmes could be beamed straight to homes equipped with the appropriate antenna and the electronics. The BBC were to be the British pioneers of that service and technology.

The economics of the project have been scrutinized by the BBC for more than a year. The corporation's misgivings came to a head at the end of last year when its board decided to postpone the launch date of the satellite - at least that was the official version. What has become clear is that the BBC has lost confidence in the economics of a service that would cost it about £170m investment over the seven-year lifetime of the satellite and a further £180m in operating costs, beginning in 1986.

The expected expansion of cable with which the corporation would have to compete has disturbed it and altered its economic calculations dramatically. The appearance of low powered satellites able to distribute their programmes to cable television operators who would then redistribute them locally was the most disturbing innovation.

The first of these to be launched and become operational is the European Com-



The American experience: what cable and satellite TV can mean to a small community. Leesburg, Virginia, population 8,357, has a choice of 44 channels, 39 of them for a subscription of \$7 a week, and five more specialist channels. An interactive cable system also means that citizens can shop, bank and vote from their TV sets. Picture: Ferorelli/Colorific

munication Satellite (ECS-1) which was launched last summer from Kourou in French Guiana on board an Ariane rocket of the European Space Agency (ESA). ECS-1 represents the first of a series of five satellites which will orbit 22,300 miles above the surface of the earth and able to communicate between most countries in western Europe. The nine transponders or channels on the first have been allocated by Eutelsat, the European Satellite Organization representing 20 European governments/telecommunication authorities.

Two have been allocated to Britain, two to West Germany and one each to Belgium, France, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Only one of the British have so far been assigned by British Telecom. That has gone to

Satellite Television, the group which is 65 per cent owned by News International, owners of Times Newspapers, The News of the World and The Sun. By the summer of this year it will be beaming eight hours of programming into Britain during prime time.

Another critical ingredient which will be fundamental in deciding whether cable/satellite is to succeed will be the programming, the cost of that programming to the operators and ultimately to the subscribers. Despite the fact that the cable networks are local and only encompass about 100,000 homes, a great deal of their programmes will come from international sources and be distributed nationally by satellite.

This type of distribution is

being offered as a service by both Mercury and British Telecom which are setting up satellite earth stations in London docklands to accommodate the expected demand.

Television is an expensive medium. Modest programming costs in the region of £30,000 an hour while a full costed drama could cost nearly £1m an hour. It is unlikely that cable will ever be able to afford the latter and the former might well be outside the budget of most companies during the initial years of start-up. That is the Catch 22. Without the programming there are no subscribers, and without the subscribers there is no money for programming. Satellite distribution helps to spread the cost.

Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent

## Not a licence to print money

It seems odd but the established operators of cable television were comparatively unsuccessful in their attempts to obtain franchises for the second generation cabling of Britain. Some systems - like Visionhire's British Relay Wireless - have been around since the 1930s so there is no lack of experience.

The cynical view is that old hands like Visionhire and

Rediffusion (which was successful with one application) were too pessimistic about the profitability of the new cable franchises; the companies which won - many are consortia with members of impeccable financial experience but little technical expertise - were rather too optimistic in their assumptions.

The established operators do have some advantages - they already have their existing networks, albeit using mostly old fashioned narrow-band cables.

These operators have a head start on the newcomers but the advantages are limited. Visionhire hopes to have converted at least some of its 55 networks to four-channel systems, piping in programmes direct to homes using existing cables. But under the Government's rules they must provide the existing

subscribers with a free aerial to pick up the standard BBC and ITV services. Fruitless negotiations with local authorities who believe operators make vast profits from cable means that some networks will be closed down.

The problem is that the existing systems were built for a different purpose - to improve reception of the standard broadcast services. They were built between 1930 and 1950. Visionhire estimates that to replace the cable serving its 250,000 subscribers would cost £300m. Its cable operation is certainly not a licence to print money - its parent company, Electronic Rentals, lost £2.5m on cable services last year.

However, the main concern of the existing operators is not

Continued on page 111

# Tomorrow on-line today

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# WHSMITH CABLE



# Who's watching what?

The battleground is the living room of the B-tish family. The stakes run into millions of pounds. The outcome, even for those who have studied the many mysteries of media research is as fickle as the flick of a switch will allow.

The cable revolution is just around the corner and it is not only television as we currently know which will never be the same again. Imagine the average cabled family in three years time. Both BBC channels are still there, along with ITV and Channel 4, unchanged, at least for the moment. In competition with them for the viewers' attention are at least two major feature film channels.

Each costs an extra £10 a month on top of the basic cable fee of £8, and tonight there is a choice between Superman 5 on one and Tootsie II on the other. The conflict need not cause much heartsearching. The films appear at different times on other nights, so even if the family has not yet recorded one on their laser disc machine, there is another chance later.

Where there might be some argument is in the study, the home of the second set.

The 10-year-old wants to use the rented microcomputer linked to the set to play the latest adventure game. It looks nothing like the electronic space invaders of today. Live cinema action has been recorded on the laser disc player, and it is manipulated on the screen by his use of the computer joystick. When his jet aircraft dives into Death Valley, he is seeing the real thing.

## The new battleground will be in your living room

The 15-year-old, on the other hand, would very much like to take a look at how her practice paper on English literature fared with the education channel examiner when she answered a mock test set on the computer last week. With the exam itself coming up in a few days, she needs to know what sort of grades she can expect.

The father is equally anxious to use the computer's interactive facilities through the head end computer at the cable company's headquarters. He wants to flick through his bank statements to see if his pay cheque has arrived, and there's a new family finance program on offer which might help him decide whether to apply for a second mortgage. If he does want one, the forms are waiting to be displayed on the screen so he can have an answer the next morning.

It sounds like science fiction, but it is nothing of the sort. The technology for all these developments is already established or will be so within a year.

All that is required is the cable network to distribute them, and a public willing to pay for them.

There is no doubt that the

most popular services, and the ones which will be the most profitable of the programming companies initially, are the film channels. Three major film cable consortia have emerged to fight it out for the nation's attention. The Television Entertainment Group consists of Home Box Office, the pioneering cable network which now has 13 million subscribers in the US. Goldcrest Films and Television, 20th Century Fox, and Columbia. United Cable Programmes is made up of Rank Trident, Plessey, Rediffusion and UIP, the latter being itself a joint venture by several Hollywood film companies. Finally, there is Tuora EMI, which has plans for a first-run feature film channel, Premier, a pop channel, Music Box, a children's venture, Jack in the Box, and a telesoftware channel which sells software for home computers.

Two sports channels have announced their intention to offer only sport and leisure coverage, and British Cable Programmes, says it will be the only company offering regular coverage of the performing arts.

The Games Network, run by W H Smith with an American partner, is undoubtedly the most adventurous cable project of the moment. Initially, it will simply offer video games to be played on a £300 64K Japanese-made microcomputer which is included in the £10-£11 monthly rental. But later the system will expand into interactive home shopping facilities and financial and home banking projects.



Home and away: Producer Nicky Mideo in the control room of Swindon Cable, one of Britain's newest cable stations, and some of the viewing choices facing New Yorkers recently in just 90 minutes

Thursday Evening Programmes			
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CABLE AND SATELLITE TV

# Playing the rent – buy game

To rent or buy? That's a dilemma which will face television viewers many times in years to come. The television rental companies, faced with competition from TV sales backed by more reliable sets and five-year guarantees at an additional price, have struck back. Their theme is that the broadcasting revolution will make it more difficult for the television owner to keep up with the latest technology without buying a new set every few years. The renter, on the other hand, can simply exchange his old set for one which can cope with new forms of transmission for little or no extra cost.

It is an argument which has no positive resolution, and another reminder that possessing a television in years to come is going to demand a lot more thought than in the good old days when there was BBC 1 and 2 and ITV, with nothing else to complicate matters.

Modern sets are, without doubt, more reliable than any of their predecessors. While their outward appearance may have changed little, apart from the arrival of the now commonplace remote control unit, behind the screen technology has advanced. Yet there will probably come a stage where the most modern of today's sets may not be able to cope with everything on offer to the viewer. When? Well, not with cable. The proliferation of satellite broadcasting is likely to be the first serious occasion when large numbers of viewers find their sets incapable of receiving a new television signal without the benefit of an add-on device.

Cable should be available to anybody with a modern television set, rented or not.

If you are one of the 900,000 lucky enough to be in the area of one of the 11 pilot cable schemes, you are likely to find out about the business fairly soon.



Neil Foster, technical manager, in the control room of Select TV at Milton Keynes which opened in 1981

Large scale promotion is the name of the game for all of the new cable networks, and with good reason. Since they are trying to persuade people to part with their money to pay for a service which is completely new to all but a handful of British households. By the time the first cables come on stream, everyone who can be connected to them will know of the choice.

Most networks will charge a connection fee, probably around the £15 mark, and a monthly charge for the basic service. For this, the cable will be fed into your home and you will receive on it the existing BBC and commercial channels and their associated teletext services. The reception should be perfect and remain so night and day, and that alone may prove a boon for those households who live in a poor reception area.

But the real attraction of cable is the added choice it will give the viewer, and that costs extra. The cable networks and the companies who will provide them with their pay television

programmes are still working out their figures, which makes it hard to predict how much the new services will cost. The industry believes that a rough average for the provision of the basic service plus one premium film channel is around £15 a month. This may well vary from area to area, and, since the economics of cable dictate that the system becomes more economic the larger its subscription base, one could find that the price of entry will drop, rather than increase, as the companies try to attract more business.

Is £15 a month reasonable? It depends entirely on one's viewing habits. A video recorder owner who watches rented films at home can expect to pay £1 to £1.50 a night, and a membership fee in some cases. Clearly, if he is a regular film viewer, a cable service will not appear extortionate.

For the specialized viewing services, the exercise becomes more difficult, since there is no ready comparison to be made.

Whatever British Cable Programmes charges for its arts service, for example, it is unlikely to cost as much as one single ticket for Covent Garden.

Those who decide to take one of the pay services will be tied to it for at least one month, and possibly more.

Whatever service one chooses, each subscriber will receive glossy advance magazines detailing the month's offerings and the time of their appearances. One should not expect too much of these publications; they will not have the huge advertising support which have made *Radio Times* and *TV Times* into the country's two most lucrative magazines.

The BBC and the ITV companies are defending to the death their right to the copyright of their programme schedules, effectively preventing any outsider from offering an alternative service. Such a blatant cartel against the public interest may outrage most of us, and it is rarely defended by television people in private, but it has been upheld by the courts and will probably continue for some time. This will not stop cable subscribers finding out what is on, since they will receive tickets for the cable networks themselves.

Should you enlist and later decide that cable television is not to your liking, simply cancel your subscription. Most British networks will be based on a new form of cable technology which precludes the need for boxes of decoders in the home to enable pay television channels to be received. The switched-star system means that the cable operator can dictate from his headquarters precisely what services you receive without the need to visit your home. If you become a "delinquent viewer", as one programme puts it, your plug is pulled from afar. It is perhaps best not to throw away that portable aerial after all.

David Hewson

## Protecting a full British service

There is a little doubt that the two licensed telecommunications carriers, British Telecom and Mercury, the privately owned consortium led by Cable & Wireless, will not only be active in providing cable facilities to the cable television networks but will also be the primary distributors of programmes nationally and internationally, writes Bill Johnston.

It is the Government's intention that any cable operators will be heavily dependent on the telecommunications duopoly. Cable networks which are able to provide "interactive" services – like armchair teleshopping or telebanking – will be encouraged by government policy.

With the switch system technology the awarded franchise will be for 20 years. But no network, whether it has the capability or not to offer telephony the carriage of telephone calls, will be given approval

unless that particular activity is done in partnership with either of the licensed carriers.

The formulation of that policy meant that British Telecom and Mercury would be a prominent force in the new cable networks. It is no surprise that British Telecom is involved with five of the 11 franchises awarded for multichannel cable television and that at least two, Swindon and Glasgow North, have declared their intention to work with Mercury.

The Government has declared that the Mercury network, once a figure of eight, encompassing the major business centres of Britain, will be a full national service and that it will be protected from competition for seven years. It is therefore its intention that the cable network, particularly by Mercury, will offer local

telephone services in competition with British Telecom.

Both the carriers will be using London dockland sites to build their earth stations for distributing cable television programming nationally and internationally linking into the Intelsat satellite network and European Communication Satellite-1 (ECS-1) spacecraft. British Telecom will have three such antennae operational by this summer although the site has a capacity for about twice that number.

British Telecom has been aggressively formulating a strategy to commercially exploit every aspect of cable television. It created a division to ensure that and moved forward on three different fronts: the provision of cable to licensed cable operators; the distribution by satellite or terrestrial link of programming and the supply of services to the networks.

## Cable money

Continued from page 1

to make money from cable but to protect their rental outlets – the television and video recorders in every home on the end of a cable. Should they want to update their systems they have the advantage of already negotiated way-leaves (the right to take cable to a house) and existing ducts.

These operators are likely to

put their own cable programmes through their systems – after dishing out free aerials – and decide whether to apply on the basis of this experience for any new franchises which may come up.

The established operators probably failed to win many of the 12 franchises on offer this time (only 11 were awarded) because they were reluctant to commit themselves to interactive (two way for home banking, home shopping, etc) systems and local programming.

A common complaint is that Kenneth Baker, the Technology Minister, wanted systems which were too exotic.

The 11 new companies – chosen out of 37 applicants – are mainly consortia including the rental companies, providers of hardware, leasing companies and financial institutions. By joining a consortium they can protect their primary interest without shouldering too heavy a financial burden. In addition, the providers of hardware, like Thorn-EMI (which includes rental operators like Radio Rentals) and GEC, are leaders in the technological field.

Despite the diverse make up, many of the companies are remarkably similar. Costs will be high which means much of the capital cost will be shouldered through loans. This means the new cable companies are likely to be more highly geared (a higher ratio of debt to their shareholders funds) than most companies. This will lengthen the time taken to start to pay profits back to the investors.

But for the suppliers of hardware, involvement with a cable service is as much a showcase for their equipment as a commercial investment.

Plenty of complaints have been voiced that the new franchises are heavily biased to the South-East. But the Government never intended the country to be carved up on a geographical basis and the

franchise areas were self-selecting.

There are no "best" areas because much depends on what the local council charges the operator for digging up the street. The South-East seems to have done well because it houses many of the companies at the forefront of electronic technology who showed themselves more ready to develop sophisticated systems.

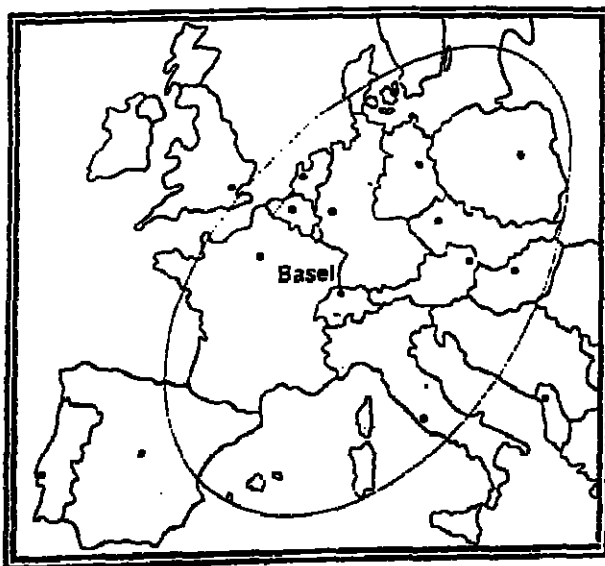
In many ways the North – where some of the established operators tried but failed to get franchises – looks a better bet than the South-East. Houses tend to be closer together, often on large estates, which makes cabling easier and more economical; northerners also tend to watch more television than their southern brethren. Demography is therefore all important.

So is the sociological make-up. Areas with what advertisers categorize C2, D and E populations are best but this research is based only on current experience and takes no account of the effects of interactive systems.

Surprisingly, London is a poor area because of the low number of children. This means the revenue from non-entertainment channels is likely to be critical to London operators.

Jonathan Clare

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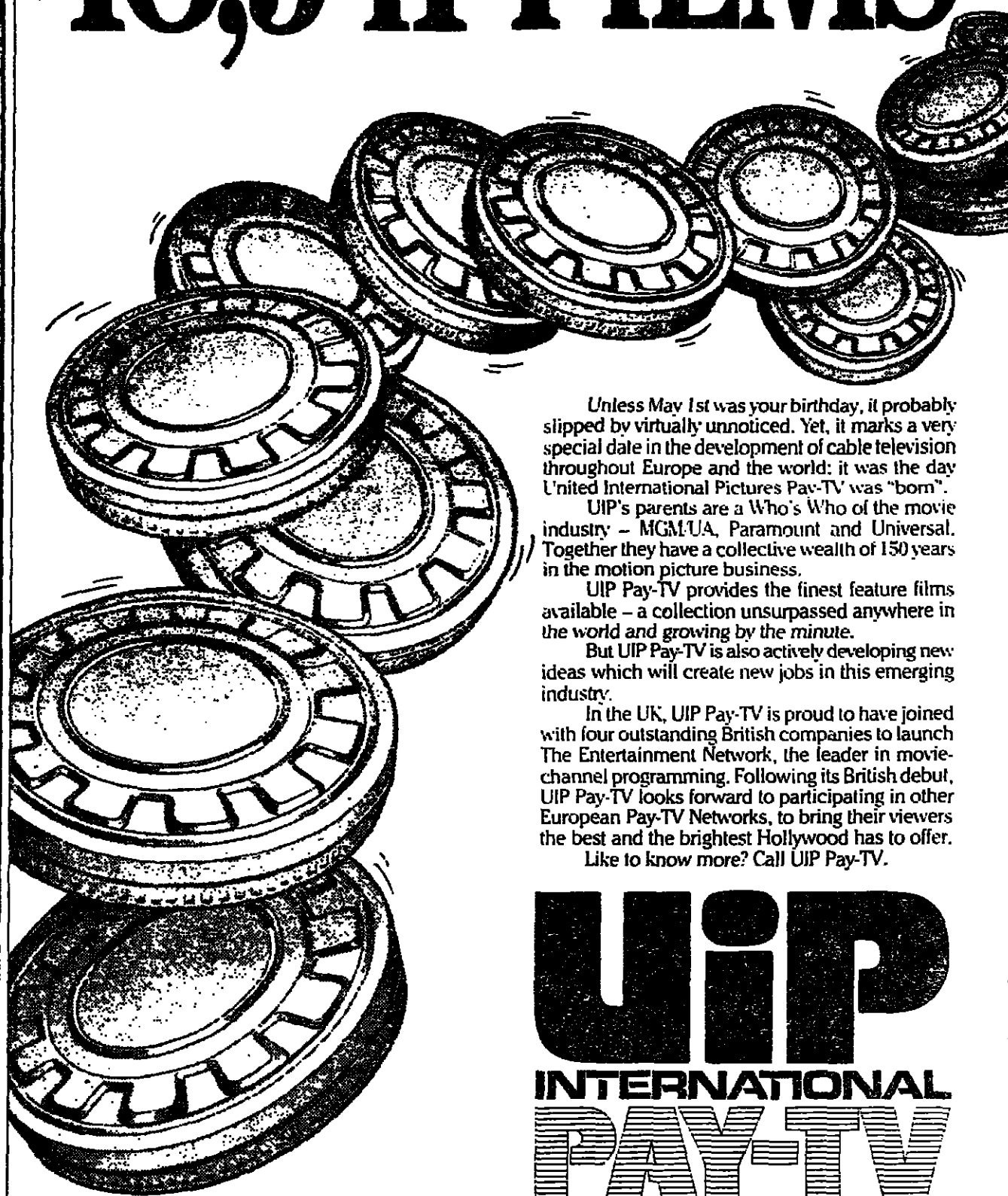
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The American experience is all important and an example which should be emulated, claim the proponents of cable and satellite television. There are an equal number who consider the US experience to be unique and one that Europe would have substantial difficulties principally political and legal in copying.

The United States could have been designed for cable and satellite television. The great geographical expanse of the country meant that unlike Britain, there were large areas which had difficulty in receiving the broadcasting signals of the three major networks. That phenomena in 1948 was to precipitate the installation of the first cable network in Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania.

The advances made in satellite communication and the relaxing of the federal authorities attitude to competition among satellite carriers - known as the American "open skies" policy - has resulted in a plethora of satellite capacity across America. There are more than 20 major companies with plans for new satellite projects.

Now every principal television programme shown on

## In America, 30 million are now plugged into cable

the United States cable networks is carried by satellite. There are now about 30 million cable television subscribers in the United States which is about 35 per cent of the 84 million television homes on the continent. More than 4.5 billion dollars are paid each year by these subscribers, paying on average 10 dollars a month.

Much is owed to the satellite technology. The first US domestic satellite, Westar 1, was launched by Western Union in the spring of 1974. By the autumn of the same year the second of the series was launched and a year later a

the Satellite Business Systems satellite network of which IBM, the computer giant, is a shareholder. It is the SBS satellite which is due to carry Rupert Murdoch's programming across the United States.

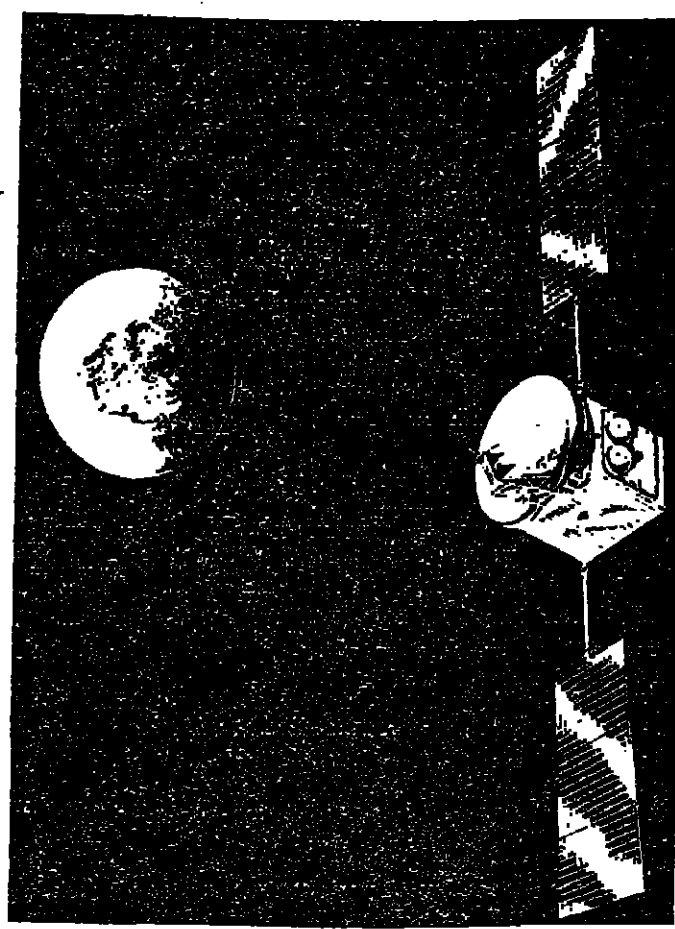
More than 30 satellite programmes are beamed each day across the United States - all of them being received by a minimum of a million subscribers. Among the leading providers of popular satellite programming is WTBS, an independent station based in Atlanta, Georgia and owned by the charismatic entrepreneur, Ted Turner. It was he who pioneered the idea of having a "super station" - a local station which beamed its programming by satellite across the United States, making it instantly a national channel.

It was Turner who used satellites in 1980 to dramatically change the coverage of television news in the United States. He created a Cable News Network (CNN) which provides 24 hours news from around the world to more than 20 million subscribers in America.

One version of the Channel CNN is continuous news in detail, while the other offers "rolling headline news". The latter is so skillfully written that it is sold to dozens of radio stations as their primary source of news.

The Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN) has more than 25 million subscribers and offers sport 24 hours a day. There are channels to cater to every possible taste. The top 20 channels carried by satellite include C-Span (political programmes, and live debates from the House of Representatives); MTV-Music Television (video and rock music programming); Home Box Office (film channel); Nickelodeon (children/young people's programming); CHN (Cable Health Network); The Weather Channel; The Nashville Network (country music); and the Financial News Network.

It is the special or interactive services which have been slower to take off principally because a great deal of the cable networks in the United States are old and are in the process of being updated. About 90 per cent of



New shape in space: an artist's impression of an advanced RCA Satcom in orbit

third, Westar IV was launched in February 1982.

The Western Union success was emulated at the end of 1975 by RCA with the launch of its Satcom 1 and another craft in the spring of the following year, for transmitting television pictures across the ice deserts of Alaska. RCA's Cable Net 1 satellite launched in November 1981 was to become the primary carrier of cable programming. Cable Net II was launched in January 1982.

Western and RCA were to set a pattern which was to be followed by dozens including the cable subscribers in America are connected to networks with less than 50 channels. That situation is expected to change in the next decade as these systems are upgraded.

Cables are now being installed which will have capacities for more than 60 channels and plans are being made to lay several of these at a time, thus offering networks carrying over 100 channels.

Interactive services have developed albeit slowly in comparison to the entertainment channels. Local newspapers are providing "teletext" on cable. More than 80 newspaper groups have been experimenting with this type of publishing service on cable. Warner Amex Cable Communications network QUBE in Columbus and Cincinnati, Ohio; Houston, Texas

and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania are examples of systems being developed to offer sophisticated interactive services like data retrieval and shopping at home.

Shoppers are catered for on the cable networks. Live auctions are shown on Gill Cable, San Diego, California; New York City cable offers Cable Video Shopper; while Televised Real Estate is a group leasing a channel from Co Cable in Spokane, Washington and Times-Mirror in California.

**Bill Johnstone**  
Technology Correspondent

## A 2ft dish could put you in the picture

If you can find a good vantage point overlooking one of the big cities such as London, Bristol, Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow or Edinburgh, scan the office-building rooftops and try to locate any dish antennae that are turned skywards.

There are not many in Britain yet, but the handful to be seen form a communications link between a communications satellite and a customer receiving anything from television signals to computer data.

In the United States more than 5,600 of these antennae belong to cable television operators who are receiving movies and other programmes from one of the newcomers to entertainment broadcasting who have emerged on the American scene.

Communications satellites for broadcasting fall into two categories. One transmits relatively low signals which need a large expensive antenna to be received making them more suitable for a community cable television system. However, they do carry a relatively large number of channels of between 12 to 48 for each satellite and at low annual cost of £2m or £3m a channel.

Nevertheless, in the United States a number of manufacturers have produced receiving dishes about 10ft in diameter, and costing about £2,500, which enthusiasts have installed in backyards to aim at the various satellites to obtain programmes just for the picking. Operators of pay-TV networks who are being charged for franchise for a particular community and, understandably, broadcasters like Home Box Office, shout "piracy".

One plan to counter piracy involves scrambling the signals

so unauthorized users cannot decode them. But it is an inconvenience and an added cost.

The issue is about to become more tangled with the introduction of a second category of communications spacecraft - the Direct Broadcasting Satellite (DBS). These are designed to transmit at high power to individual home receivers with antennae less than one metre in diameter.

Because of the size and power of each DBS transmitter, only a few can be carried on a satellite. Under arrangements agreed at an international conference, and known as the Geneva Plan, each European country could have up to five channels of direct satellite broadcasting.

The DBS satellites are at an early stage of development and no system is planned with more than three active channels per satellite. A British consortium consisting of GEC, British Aerospace and British Telecom have taken a lead in this work with a vehicle called Unisat 1 that should be launched in the autumn of 1986.

It was assumed until the beginning of the year that the BBC would take two channels of direct broadcasting on Unisat.

In theory, domestic reception in Britain would need only a dish-shaped antenna two feet in diameter, which could be placed anywhere within direct view of the satellite. To receive the subscription film channel, viewers were to have paid either directly, using a coin box attached to the set which would electronically unlock that channel, or by subscription.

Unisat is designed with a working life of seven years. Furthermore, the signals would

be transmitting television in a new format. Instead of the PAL system currently used in Britain, a different format known as C-MAC developed by the IBA was chosen as a better scheme.

In one of the many twists, turns and setbacks which have plagued all really significant developments in broadcasting policy, the British DBS project has stumbled. The BBC is unable to carry the cost (£150m), and efforts to redraw the venture with the BBC and the IBA using Unisat on a shared basis have been fruitless. There is no clear sign of how the mess will be resolved.

Elsewhere, over a dozen applications have been made in the United States to the Federal Communications Commission for permission to operate a DBS.

Because of its vast size with four time zones, the United States is expected to end up with between 50 and 120 DBS channels by the end of the '80s.

A good 10 years before DBS satellites became a topic of conversation, the German Government was doing research into ways of beaming television programmes direct into homes so that it could reach residents in West Berlin more readily. Against that background, it is clear to see why proposals for a public service in Germany by direct broadcasting are more complete than for any other European country.

It is called TV-Sat. Nevertheless it will complement two powerful satellites which are intended to stimulate community cable-television TV-Sat is expected to be the first European DBS in space.

**Pearce Wright**  
Science Editor

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Continued from page 11

franchise for the Guildford franchise which will mean heavy investment. However, its other applications, offering much simpler systems, failed.

The other side of what is a very complicated financial equation includes tax allowances, advertising revenue and the sale of hardware.

Most, if not all of the consortia, which put in franchise applications built tax allowances into their plans. In particular the finance companies which have joined several consortia need capital allowances to put against tax because the tax system is biased against them. The problem is that the Inland Revenue, though it says nothing officially, believes that the ducts

## What you pay

through which the cables pass are the "setting" rather than pieces of capital equipment.

Without these essential tax allowances there are murmurings that some consortia will pull out. The question of tax status should be resolved soon between the Treasury and the Inland Revenue.

Advertising revenues are difficult to judge. What is certain is that the conventional independent television stations will lose simply because there are more services for viewers to choose from so audiences will fall. This will make it difficult

for the ITV companies to increase their rates.

The local nature of cable services will mean more local advertising which will hit the local papers. Recruitment advertising is likely to take off in a big way. Programmes aimed at particular audiences, for instance do-it-yourself, could also hit specialist magazines.

Again the only real guide is the United States where after 10 years of cable it only accounts for 1 per cent of the total national spending on advertising.

In Britain the new Cable Authority will draw up advertis-

ing rules which will be similar to those already enforced by the Independent Broadcasting Authority to limit the number of minutes an hour. But it will also draw up special rules for sponsored programmes.

Many consortia members are also manufacturers of the equipment which will be used to provide the services: Thorn-EMI, Cable & Wireless, GEC and BICC, for instance. Thorn-EMI says it intends to sell a wide range of its existing services and products to all cable operators.

The supply of hardware, short term, is likely to be the first source of profits from the cabling of the country.

**Jonathan Clare**

# London dockland's first earth station gets off the ground this month.

The station is opening in the heart of the city's dockland. Its purpose: to provide TV distribution services, via satellite, to the UK and European cable networks. The fact that we're right on target for February shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone. We've never believed in leaving anything in the hands of the gods.



British TELECOM International - The International Division of British Telecom

NEWS

Call to expo scrap

Britain's... account for... output at... doubled in... yesterday; de... against call... for export... Pressure has... inside the... munity for... be constrained... as a result... But the Br... avon said... was no cab... restraint at... quite able to... the domestic... Last year... reported a... of scrap... • Noble Gross... burgh-based... raised... £1.7m in... January... Gross... the group... period of sub... activity and... • Sir Richard... executive of... continued... profit, growth... annual shareh... the chairman... also been... for the chief... his London... the firm... equivalent... annual sale... • Another... ing economi... yesterday... dom credit... failures not... holders in... by 14.6 per... • Barclays... national's... issue to raise... \$350m (£228m)... Bank anno... day.



# FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## Lords pursue the details of BT's private affair

The Government and its City advisers will be keeping a wary eye today on the proceedings in the House of Lords, where the British Telecom privatization Bill is entering the committee stage. In addition to the standard Labour opposition, a group of Conservative and cross-bench peers have put down a number of amendments, reflecting their unease — shared by many outsiders — about the effective monopoly they believe BT will continue to enjoy even after its flotation this autumn.

The attack is in three main areas: the need to make BT's operating licence regularly reviewable by Parliament (instead of being a 25-year-long gift in the hands of Whitehall); the need to restrict BT's right to go into the equipment manufacturing business; and the need to strengthen the powers of the regulatory authority, the Office of Telecommunications, that is being set up to monitor BT's operations and pricing policies when it becomes a private sector company.

It would be stretching one's faith in the Parliamentary process to expect a series of Government defeats at the hands of these crumpled rebels, but the Government is anxious about the strength of the campaign and may well be forced to concede one of their points. The most likely concession is Parliamentary sanction over the licence.

Any concession would be welcomed by telephone by telephone users and those, like Lord Weinstock of GEC, who want genuine rather than cosmetic competition in the industry. But retreats and modifications will not make any easier the task of Kleinwort Benson the lead bank on the issue and thus chiefly concerned with making a success of the BT flotation.

## Midland's check on societies

It was only a matter of time before one of the big four clearing banks introduced a high interest bearing current account scheme, despite all protestations that bank customers wanted no such thing. In the event it is the Midland Bank which has taken the plunge with a high interest cheque account aimed firmly at the top end of the market.

In return for keeping at least £2,000 in the account, customers receive a money market rate of interest (9 per cent at present) and can write five as many cheques as they like for a minimum of £200. They can cash one cheque a day for £200 at Midland branches and have an ordinary current account which attracts no bank charges provided it is kept in credit.

Midland's scheme is a worthy challenge to the plethora of such accounts on offer from smaller competitors. It should also be a useful weapon in the long-running battle with the building societies, for deposits — a battle which the banks are losing.

Having taken their deposit bases for granted for many years, bankers are now acutely conscious that retail deposits must be nurtured and fought for.

Today about half the clearing bank's sterling deposits pay interest at market rates and one danger is that every time a

bank introduces an attractive new scheme to bring in deposits, they may end simply increasing the cost of its existing deposit base rather than enlarging it. Midland has not traditionally been strongly represented at the upmarket end of the banking sector so the impact of its scheme on existing deposits may not be marked.

Midland's scheme however is unlikely to be the end of the story. At some stage the other clearing banks will surely respond. Meanwhile, Save & Prosper is planning to announce significant changes to its own high interest cheque account later this month; they may well leave Midland's looking rather out of date.

## Hard words at London Brick

At the request of Hanson Trust, the Takeover Panel executive on Tuesday invoked the 39-day rule in an attempt to force London Brick to publish the asset revaluation it has prepared. This is the key part of the London Brick defence against Hanson's unwanted £212m takeover bid and it was hoping to hold it in reserve for use in the event of higher terms. The Panel ruled that it should have been in the hands of shareholders two days ago and that for every day of delay from then, a day would be added to the February 14 deadline, after which Hanson would in normal circumstances not be allowed to raise its bid.

If the deadlines were put back indefinitely it would make a mockery of the sacrosanct takeover principle that a company should not be subject to siege for more than 60 days. The Panel surely cannot be so stupid.

Meanwhile, the hard line is being pursued. "The £212m bid had already been seen off. The dismal 2 per cent acceptance level was witness to that," says Mr Marcus Agius, a director of London Brick's merchant bank, Lazard Brothers. "We have no intention of releasing information which would not be published in the normal course of business. Until Hanson raises its bid, we will not release the asset revaluation."

Mr Martin Taylor, at Hanson Trust, is equally determined to prize the asset valuation out before deciding whether the current £212m is the final offer.

Hanson's meanderings through the technicalities of the takeover code must at least indicate that it is still serious about when it merely extended its offer on Monday after receiving such a derisory level of acceptance.

The current market price of London Brick shares at 153p is above Hanson's 145p cash terms and also a little above the convertible loan stock alternative. It will have to raise the bid to win. At 145p it will be touch and go.

Some are still surprised that Hanson has chased London Brick as far as it has. There must be something in London Brick's argument that the traditional cyclical nature of its profits are a thing of the past. Combining London Brick with Hanson's own Butterley Building Materials would also create a mighty brick company with the glamorous prospect of a profitable re-flotation in five years time.

## Liberal peer proposes 25% boost to state pensions

By Lorna Bourke

A 25 per cent increase in state retirement pensions, paid for by the abolition of the state earnings-related pension, is among controversial proposals for reform submitted to the Government pensions inquiry by Lord Banks, Liberal spokesman in the Lords on social security.

"The plan is a radical one which would sweep away the earnings-related pension, put everyone on contracted-in National Insurance contributions, and increase the basic retirement pension by 25 per cent," said Lord Banks.

Employers would also be given the chance to opt out of their employees' pension schemes. They would be able to choose instead a portable self-employed type of pension scheme. Employers would be obliged to contribute to em-

ployees' private pension arrangements in the same way they fund occupational pension schemes.

There would however be an upper limit on employers' contributions towards these pensions of 3 per cent of payroll.

"All those who chose not to join their occupational scheme, or who were not covered by an occupational scheme, should contribute to a personal pension plan, a matching contribution to that personal pension plan form their employer up to a fixed limit," said Lord Banks.

The employees would however be able to contribute a higher proportion without a matching employer contribution, though it would have to remain within the limits for self-employed pension contributions.

"These proposals would have many advantages. They would substantially increase the basic retirement pension, considerably helping those who benefit not at all or very slightly from the present earnings-related pension," said Lord Banks.

Abolition of the state earnings-related pension coupled with an increase in the basic state pension has been advocated often by those who point to the injustice of providing better pensions for those already able to make provision for themselves, while leaving those on the basic state pension in need of supplementary benefit.

"The increase would be achieved without extra cost to the Exchequer and the complicated contracted-out procedures and administration would be eliminated," said Lord Banks.

"The long-term funding problems of the earnings-related pension would disappear".

Lord Banks's proposals have the backing of the Liberal Party social services and taxation panel, but will not become Liberal policy unless approved by the Liberal Assembly or Council.

His recommendations will get short shrift from pensions giants like Legal and General which also published yesterday its submissions to Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services.

Mr John Craddock, pensions director of Legal and General, said: "Proposals for personal and portable pensions could seriously undermine United Kingdom occupational pension schemes and leave millions of employed people and their families much worse off."

## Stylo may ignore £36m bid

By Jonathan Clare

Stylo, the Bradford shoe company, may take the highly unusual step of making no formal defence against the unwanted £36.7m bid from the Hanson Queensway furniture and carpet group of Mr Phil Harris.

Stylo's merchant bank adviser, Lloyds Bank International, said it was considering such a move after receiving the formal offer document from Harris Queensway which was posted to shareholders yesterday.

Mr David Horne of LBI said: "It's exactly the same price as before, it's still conditional on 50 per cent acceptance. But holders of 50 per cent of the shares have already said the bid is not good enough so it is hardly an offer. We are therefore considering simply telling shareholders that there is no offer." This would mean Stylo would issue no formal defence document.

The tactic of ignoring a bid was successfully used by Percy Bilton last year in its defence against Trust Securities.

Mr Horne is due to meet Mr Arnold Ziff, Stylo's chairman, today to discuss the tactics. He will probably write to County Bank, Harris adviser, to demand that it substantiates the claim that 30 per cent of shareholders support the bid.

The Harris message to Stylo shareholders in the offer document is that they must support the bid as a signal to the Stylo board that it must negotiate.

A spokesman for County Bank said last night: "The point is that the Stylo board can sit on their hands until the 60th day and that is the end of it."

The Ziff family controls Stylo through an archaic management share structure. It also has influence over a large block of the ordinary shares held through the Rochdale Canal Co, a subsidiary of a property company with Mr Ziff on the board.

Without board agreement Harris cannot win control of Stylo even if all the other shareholders accept its 325p per share offer.

Stylo could easily mount a strong defence on asset backing from freehold high street property which is probably worth at least 500p per share.

County Bank said there was no question of a higher bid without talks with the board first.

The Stylo board has already said there is nothing further to discuss and no talks have been held since the original approach. Harris says that it has letters from holders of 30 per cent of the Stylo shares, mainly institutions, in favour of a bid.

Harris is interested in Stylo both for its property and Pennywise discount stores which are similar to its own Pound Saver chain.

## NCB subsidy rises by another £192m

By David Young  
Energy Correspondent

The Government has increased its funding of the National Coal Board to cover its losses in the current financial year from £40m to £160m.

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, in making the announcement yesterday, also said that if the present overtime ban by miners carried on beyond the end of next month another £80m of government funding would be needed by the NCB.

Mr Walker, in a written parliamentary answer, said: "Prospective losses on this scale underline the seriousness of the board's financial position and the extent of the industry's dependence on the Government and the taxpayer."

The deterioration in the NCB's financial position has come despite progress made by Mr Ian MacGregor, the new chairman, in reducing costs and excess output.

The revised government grant has been made necessary by a continued decline in market share and the recent severe subsidence damage at some pits.

The new government funding will also cover the cost to the NCB of measures agreed with the Government to support the foundry coking coal market, ensuring the build-up of stock by the Central Electricity



MacGregor: financial decline despite higher output

Generating Board and major industrial customers, and to cover the cost of United Kingdom coal replacing cheap imports bought under long-term contracts.

Mr Walker said yesterday that although the miners' overtime ban had brought benefits to the NCB in terms of its immediate cash position any continuation of the ban until the end of March would result in Parliament being asked to approve a further £80m.

Coal stocks in Britain are higher than at the same time last year despite the 14-week ban which has cost miners £51.3m in earnings.

## Tricentral to raise £55m on sale of US assets

By Wayne Lintott

In an apparent reverse of strategy, Tricentral, the independent oil exploration group, is to sell the bulk of its American onshore acreage and oil reserves in a deal that could be worth upwards of £55m.

The company refused yesterday to disclose the exact size or value of its reserves, acreage and administrative and technical staff. But it did say that its US debt of \$102m (£72.8m) "will be substantially reduced."

Tricentral has decided to concentrate its resources on 32 tracts from the Gulf of Mexico and on its Montana gas fields.

Both areas are successfully producing and both are expected to require significant development expenditure.

The company's operations in China and Australasia will be unaffected and the heavy North Sea exploration programme will continue to be financed from the Thistle field cash flow.

Mr Nigel Turnbull, the finance director, expects the deal to alleviate the group's cash-flow requirements in the current year and to have a beneficial effect on earnings per share.

price was pitched aggressively at about 50p below market levels.

This was taken to mean that the Government was determined to maintain heavy sales of gilts to hold back monetary growth before the Budget, even at the cost of keeping yields high.

Gilts have performed poorly this week, unsettled not only by the new tax, but by indications that US interest rates are unlikely to fall further.

This much was admitted by Mr Martin Feldstein, head of the President's council of economic advisers.

If neither was done, he said the deficit would balloon to \$300 billion and the forecasts for growth, inflation and interest rates would have to be revised completely.

Both sides agreed that the threat to a sustained recovery, adequate capital formation and balanced development of the economy was clear. They have not yet agreed on how to remove the threat.

Democratic leaders said the President should propose a list of specific cuts and revenue closures and that he must state exactly what he intends to do after the election so that the voters have a clear choice.

But Mr David Stockman, director of the Office of Management and Budget, said that this would be political suicide. In a briefing on the budget, he said: "There are going to be a lot of hard bullets to bite after the election and we are not going to put up a list now for all the Democratic candidates to shoot down."

Based on present tax and spending laws, the deficits indicated in the Reagan budget would be even larger than the President projected, rising from \$195 billion in the fiscal year 1983 to \$261 billion by 1989 and accounting for close to 5 per cent of the US grip for the next four years, house analysts said.

## Exports 'to boost small companies'

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

Prospects for British exports this year may be even better than the forecast 4 per cent rise and small companies could be the ones to benefit, said Mr Paul Channon, Minister for Trade, at the Small Business Bureau national conference at Frimley, Surrey, yesterday.

About 80 per cent of those using British Overseas Export Board (BOTB) services, to introduce British companies to overseas markets, fell into the small firms category he said.

Mr Channon said: "I believe export prospects may be even better the rise so far forecast. In the last quarter of last year they were up by 9.5 per cent on the previous quarter."

BOTB services were likely to be reinforced for small companies. A review had been started to see how services to small companies could be improved.

Government support for small businesses was echoed by the prime minister who also spoke at the conference.

It emerged that some 60 schemes helped to small businesses are to be collected into a much smaller group, each with a clear purpose. The plan will be drawn up by May. The number of schemes could be confusing to small companies, said Mrs Thatcher.

There were bearing fruit, the conference was told. Some 20,000 businesses registered for value-added tax in the three years to 1982.

Bigger break wanted, page 17

## Economy 'set for growth'

The economy is likely to grow by nearly 2.5 per cent a year between 1984 and 1988, according to Mr David Kern, chief economist at National Westminster Bank.

This would be slightly faster than the EEC average and a significant improvement on past performance when Britain's growth rate was only half that of the industrial world as a whole.

In the February issue of the bank's *Economic and Financial Outlook*, he says Britain's medium-term prospects remain better than at any time since the 1973 oil crisis.

## Tebbit warns US on trade barriers

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Nato alliance and all that hangs upon it, Mr Tebbit said in an address to the US Chamber of Commerce.

Specifically, Mr Tebbit cited a series of recent US actions and proposed action which are raising tensions and the level of rhetoric to a disturbing degree.

Steel import constraints, new extraterritorial trade controls, unilateral taxation, the auto domestic content legislation on cars, textile constraints and the continuing agricultural dispute were all on the list.

He noted that the British Government, despite a current high level of unemployment, was re-elected on a firm open trade platform.

"About 80 per cent of our imports entered duty free — that is more than twice the proportion in the US — and at the last count we found that only 6 per cent of our imports of industrial products were subject to some form of non-fair trade restraint," Mr Tebbit said.

Bluntly, the wrong choice would not just be the wrong choice for the American economy, it would be the wrong choice for Western security, the

subscriptions and a \$6 billion loan from the industrial nations and Saudi Arabia.

But lending commitments have proved lower than expected, helped by the pick-up in the world economy and successful adjustment programmes in several countries.

A decision by India not to take up this year's instalment of an agreed loan has alone released \$750m for lending elsewhere.

## IMF cash fears recede

By Our Economics Correspondent

A significant improvement in the financial position of debtor countries means the International Monetary Fund may not need to raise new cash this year as previously feared.

Last autumn M Jacques de Larosière, the IMF managing director, warned that the fund might need an extra \$8 billion this year to meet lending commitments, on top of last year's 50 per cent increase in member countries' quotas of

## Index rises 5.3 points

A steadier performance overnight on Wall Street enabled the London stock market to pick itself up off the floor yesterday as share prices enjoyed a modest rally.

The FT Index having lost nearly 33 points this week rose 5.3 to 885.0 as a few cheap buyers appeared on the scene. But prices closed below their best levels of the day as further selling developed in New York in early trade. Blue chips managed small improvements of between 2p at 3p, although most investors decided to tread warily for the time being.

Tension in the Middle East brought gold shares back into favour and the bullion price improved on the world's market. Oil shares were also singled out for attention including those with big North Sea interests. But the Government's new "tap" £1,000m of Exchequer 9½ per cent 1998 has been badly received. The Bank of England yesterday announced that all tenders had been met in full at the minimum price £94.50. Dealers said investors had taken up only a small percentage of the issue are expected to open at a discount later today.

Market report, page 18

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 885.0 up 5.3  
FT Gilt: 82.37 up 0.19  
FT All Share: 486.24 up 2.49  
Bargains: 24,828  
Datastream US Leaders Index: 103.35 up 0.15  
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1172.42 down 8.07  
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,099.59 up 38.67  
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1078.79 down 6.61

## CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
Sterling \$1.4125 up 30pts  
Index 81.5 down 0.2  
DM 3.8950 down 0.01  
FF 11.95 down 0.01  
Yen 331 up 0.25  
**DOLLAR**  
Index 130.4 down 0.3  
DM 2.7525  
**NEW YORK LATEST**  
Sterling \$1.4135  
Dollar DM 2.7530  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
ECU £0.576926  
SDR £0.736040

## INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
Bank base rates 9  
Finance houses base rate 9½  
Discount market loans week fixed 9½-9  
3 month interbank 9½-9½  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
3 month dollar 9½-9½  
3 month DM 5½-5½  
3 month Fr F14½-14½  
**US rates**  
Bank prime rate 11.00  
Fed funds 9½  
Treasury long bond 101½-101½  
**ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling**  
Export Finance Scheme IV  
Average reference rate for interest period January 4, to February 7, 1984 inclusive: 9.493 per cent.

## GOLD

**London fixed (per ounce):**  
am 5384.95 pm 5386.25  
close 5386-5386.50 (£273-273.50)  
New York (close): 5386.25  
Kruggerand (per coin):  
5397.50-5399.50 (£281.25-282.75)  
**Sovereigns (new):**  
590-591 (£63.50-64)  
"Excludes VAT"

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Call to curb exports of scrap metal

Britain's ferrous scrap merchants, whose exports now account for 40 per cent of output at prices which have doubled in the last year, yesterday defended themselves against calls from steel makers for export restrictions.

Pressure has been growing inside the European Community for exports of scrap to be constrained in the hope that as a result prices would decline. But the British Scrap Federation said yesterday that there was no case to be made for restraint at a time when it was quite able to supply the needs of the domestic steelmaking industry. Last year, BRF members exported a record 3.8m tonnes of scrap worth £188m.

● Noble Grossart, the Edinburgh-based merchant bank, raised pre-tax profits from £1.47m to £1.52m in the year to January 31 and Mr Angus Grossart, managing director, says the group is entering a period of substantial growth in activity and profits.

● Mr Richard Giordano, chief executive of BOC, said that he continued to expect a sharp profits growth this year. At the annual shareholders meeting the chairman, Sir Leslie Smith, also won shareholders approval for the chief executive to buy his London home, rented from the firm, for £500,000, the equivalent of Mr Giordano's annual salary.

● Another sign of the improving economic outlook came yesterday from Trade Indemnity, the leading United Kingdom credit insurance company, which reported that business failures notified by its policyholders in January 1984 fell by 14.6 per cent compared with January 1983, to 276.

● Barclays Bank International's floating rate note issue to raise fresh capital has been increased from \$250m to \$350m (£248m). Barclays Merchant Bank announced yesterday.

## Shares drop sharply in slow trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones)

Stocks were down sharply, in early trading yesterday. But the trading pace slowed noticeably later.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down about 8 points to below 1173 and the transportation average was off almost 8 points to 521.

Declining issues were 8-to-5 over advances.

Mr Ronald Koenig, managing director at Ladenburg Thalmann, said: "The market is probably bottoming out around here after a deep and fast sell-off."

But Mr Koenig said there was

## WALL STREET

"lessening of the selling pressure" now in the last remnants of the drop. We see a buying opportunity here with much higher prices after a difficult first quarter.

Among the blue chips leading the pullback were General Electric down ¼ at 53½; International Business Machines down ½ at 110; Eastman Kodak down ¼ at 110; NCR down ½ at 113½; and US Steel down ¼ at 27½.

Telephone 158½ down 2½; Chicago Milwaukee 103½ up ½; Motorola 115½ down 1½.

The continuing falls in Wall Street share prices this week reflect a new feeling of nervousness about the American economy. This was triggered off by President Reagan's 1985 budget proposals to Congress, which failed to deal with the country's huge budget deficit. It was compounded by the contradictory spirit of statements by Mr Paul Volcker, the Federal Reserve Board chairman.

In two days of evidence to Congress this week, Mr Volcker has made clear his anxiety about the scale of the budget deficit, which he said he would like to see fall by at least \$50 billion a year. Yesterday he added that a reduction of only \$30 billion to \$50 billion would not lead him to loosen monetary targets, but he conceded that continued reductions in the deficit, leading to lower interest rates, might lead to changes in financial flows which would make looser targets appropriate.

Mr Volcker also made clear yesterday his view that no action to reduce the deficit would increase risks of renewed recession in the United States. On the course of interest rates during 1984, he said that the

Federal Reserve's targets were consistent with real economic growth of 4-4½ per cent, and that interest rates would only fall if growth flagged below this level — unless there was action on the budget deficit. He also pointed to its consequences for the American balance of payments (and, by implication, the dollar) pointing out that the necessary inflows of foreign capital might not continue to be forthcoming.

But President Reagan, against the advice of some of his top advisers, decided not to propose unpopular programmes to reduce the deficit in his new budget on grounds that the US economy is moving along smoothly in an election year, inflation is down and he can wait until after the election to make his move.

It has a calculated political gamble, because now the stage is set for a year-long national debate before packed audiences on the causes and possible cures of what Democrats are calling the Reagan deficits.

Instead of attacking the deficits head-on in any of the three areas though, possible defence cuts, tax increases or

cuts in middle class insurance and pension benefits known as "entitlements". Mr Reagan proposed a two-part strategy of a little action now and a lot of unspecified action later.

He hinted that after the elections he would hit the middle class with substantial benefit cuts and propose a complete overhaul of the US tax system.

For now Mr Reagan has proposed bipartisan negotiations started yesterday with leaders of Congress on a \$100 billion "bompayment" — deficit reductions over the next three years. The talks started yesterday. In the 1985 fiscal year, Mr Reagan wants to negotiate modest spending cuts and tax "loophole" closures of \$20 billion.

In his budget message and a subsequent interview with the *Wall Street Journal*, Mr Reagan indicated that substantive defence cuts and tax increases would be off limits.

Administration officials said that Mr Reagan's strategy in proposing negotiations on the deficit was to throw the Democrats on the defensive at the same time showing initiative in an area

## News background: Reagan's budget deficit

From Bailey Morris, Washington

where the President is increasingly vulnerable.

Initially the strategy appeared to work. The Democrats took the offensive in a move embarrassing to a President who was elected as a fiscal conservative.

They proposed to double the size of the downpayments to \$200 billion over three years, citing Mr Reagan's projected deficits as a threat which must be addressed in more substantive fashion than he proposed.

Using the President's own budget figures, the Democratic-controlled house budget committee issued an analysis which said that under almost four years of Mr Reagan's leadership, the national debt had surged 74 per cent for the largest increase since the Second World War.

Based on present



## INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

## Waring &amp; Gillo w tables £133,000 profit

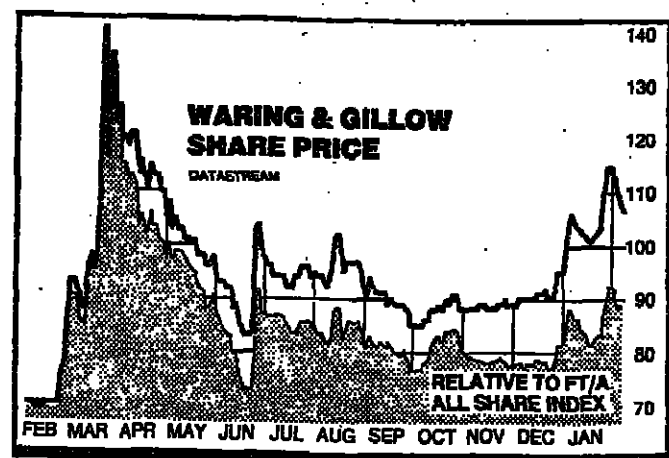
The effects of the expensive Saatchi & Saatchi advertising campaign to re-align Waring & Gillo w in the furniture market are yet to show through.

The efforts to knock the management into shape combined with lower interest rates, slimmer staffing and profits from the United States stores have put the company on course for its first decent profit in years.

Yesterday's half-year results saw a profit of £133,000 against a loss of £889,000 last time. More important, this set of results has negligible property profits of £11,000 against £165,000 last time. With the redundancy programme almost ended there are no exceptional items against last time's £112,000.

However, the results to the end of September are largely historic. Saatchi's campaign to woo shoppers who previously went to Habitat started in the autumn and should show some results in the second half.

It is long-term "image"



advertising at a rate of £2.5m a year rather than that employed by Harris Queensway which is designed to get the customers into the stores by price cutting.

The January sales have been cut-throat and it remains to be seen what effect this will have on the last three months of the year which ends next month.

Net assets of about 170p per

share make Waring the perennial subject of bid speculation though one approach last year was firmly turned down.

Better results from the US, which had high start-up costs last year, and the absence of the former loss-making menswear business, will help the full year results. Expect at least £1m; possibly £1.5m for the year.

## Martin Ford

A combination of refurbishment and more fashionable merchandise has resulted in a 77 per cent jump in the pretax profits of Martin Ford, the family-controlled women's wear retailing group.

In the year to December 3, profits climbed from £187,000 to £323,000 on sales 9 per cent high at £7.5m. The results benefited from an extra week's trading - the latest period took in 53 weeks against 52 last time. But the real boost came from the refurbishment programme, which is not substantially completed, the closure of unprofitable shops and the upgrading of merchandise into the more fashion-oriented area of the market.

The company says that trading is continuing to improve and profit should rise again this year.

Selective closures have trimmed the group to 42 shops, most of which are based in London and the Home Coun-

ties. They have now all been refurbished along the lines of the Conran Associates' design that the company commissioned some years ago, though the aim is still to cater for the group's traditional market segment of women's garments for eight to 25-year-olds.

Mr Martin Ford, the chairman, said: "Our new merchandising policy is paying off. We are now aiming much more at people who have money to spend while in the past we had been in what is called the accepted fashion end of the market for average-to-low income bracket people."

Mr Ford naturally hopes that one day the company might once again make the £1.3m profit achieved during the late 1970s.

At 25p, the shares yield 6 per cent after a 40 per cent rise in the final dividend to 0.7p.

Stock market report page 18

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RECENT ISSUES		Close Price	
Avon Holdings 10p Ord (115)		115	115
Avon 5p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158
Avon 10p Ord (158)		158	158

Note: Price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities. \* by tender.

## BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## DOLLAR STOCKS

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## STERLING: SPOT AND FORWARD

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## MONEY MARKET

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## OTHER MARKETS

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## DOLLAR SPOT RATES

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## EURO-DEPOSITS

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Div	Yld	P/E
1983/84	100	100	Avon Holdings	115	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 5p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0
1983/84	100	100	Avon 10p Ord	158	0	0	0	0

## GOLD

1983/84	High	Low	Company	Price







هَكَذَا مِنَ الْأَصْلِ











# Grittar enhances Aintree chance with bold show of jumping

**Brave Hussar (nearest camera) and Ten Bears jump the last together in the Sapling Novices' Chase at Ascot but Aces Wild (pale colours) is poised to overhaul them and challenge the winner, Cybrandian (Photograph: Ian Stewart).**

Having cost only 4,000 Irish pounds (£1,100) when he was sold as a three-year-old, Brown's *Gazette* will look an even greater bargain if he extends his usefulness as a sire by winning the Sidney Banks Memorial Novices Hurdle. He will be tackling two and a half for the first time but the longer distance should suit him, as he has the abundance of stamina in the bottom half of his pedigree. His dam is a one he may not be able to give weight to Greenwood Lad who ran so well in the race won by Everest at the same time last year, and last month. Before that he was still in with a chance of winning the Embassy Premier Chase Final at Ascot, when he fell at the last.

He should be a sire of note, as Greenwood Lad has always excelled at Huntingdon, and he can increase his number of course

winners by siring a third of the winners in the race. He has a chance of more success in the form of the More's poor performance in the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, when he was beaten 25 lengths, has become even harder to explain.

With John Whelan, that versatile talented amateur rider, in the saddle, Charlie Orr will be the best in the Dick Woodhouse Hunters Chase.

**Huntingdon selections**  
By Michael Phillips  
0 Hydrangea. 2.0 Barrier Reef. 2.30 Browne's Gazette. 3.0 Greenwood  
d. 3.30 Roadhead. 4.0 Palestina.

15.91 63001. 12000. 71600. 120.75. Jackiepot  
22.507.30. 21000. 224.25.

2-7 Philly Dollars Mon, 6 Cantford Ginger, 10 Mood Music, 20 Double Jack, 33 Basil's Choice  
56 Red Fort.

**Ludlow**

1.15 OTLEY HUNTER CHASE TOW 10 Novices:  
amateurs: 2350. 30.

15.91 63001. 12000. 71600. 120.75. Jackiepot  
22.507.30. 21000. 224.25.

2.45 DICK WOODHOUSE HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £721: 2m 5f) (20)  
1 1- BAULKING BYWAY (Mrs A Bray) Mrs A Bray 13-7 ..... Miss R Harper

1.45 HART HILL & PITT STUDS HURDLE (novice mares: £1,072; 2m)  
(23)

2.45 DICK WOODHOUSE HUNTER CHASE (amateurs: £721: 2m 5f) (20)  
1-1- BALKING BYWAY (Mrs A Bray) Mrs A Bray 9-12-7 ..... Miss R Harper

4.45 **GILLINGHAM HURDLE** (handicap: £1,624; 2m) (15)

1	1-90221	DALBURY (D) (F) Smoke F Haynes 6-11-12 (7 ex)	F Corrigan 7
2	12-1209	PARK RAINBOW (C,D) (N Gardner) F Winter 8-11-10	F Francome
3	03-1121	TOWNLEY STONE (D) (M Townley) J Webber 5-11-5	G McCoon
4	11-6001	MAN IN THE MIDDLE (D,B) (P Henson) D Sasse 8-11-5	C Brown

1-15 Fredwel. 1.45 Celtic Bell. 2.15 Fifty Dollars-More. 2.45 Cheekin Ora  
 3.15 Pip. 3.45 Towney Stone.

## World youth to look for champions on boards

It was previously thought that board sailing was in any case a youth activity, but experience has shown, however, that youngsters generally are not capable of winning adult events.

Four young helmsmen will therefore be selected to take part in an eliminator match racing series on

## Satellite tournament brings Britons back down to earth

It was only after he had lost the first game of the second set that the Finn succeeded in setting a troublemaker aside. He led 3-3, but promptly invited Buies back into the set by coming up with a couple of double faults.

## SNOW REPORTS

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, it is stated that the following persons were seen on the slopes of the mountain on the 12th and 13th of January 1956:

[illegible]

good for

The cheekily confusing introduction of a Fleet Air Arm pilot at first

AF, who included two newcomers

Loggledew has British parents

gle, and at 25 he should be at his peak, but Ingledew has had little

10-8, 9-8, 9-9 by "Dave"

Marke made profitable use of the  
on shot on both flanks and varied

Robin Bawtree, who won the first of his 15 Navy championships as

men 9-7, 9-7, 9-3 by Mick  
Donald, aged 30 who from the

Today the RAF will play the

tomorrow, when the Army play the Navy. With yesterday's sharpening

competition since 1980 but is now

... ..

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FEBRUARY 4th

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WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES: STEINER BEATS WEIRATHER TO PLACE IN AUSTRIAN TEAM

# World's No 1 downhiller is out after having his 'down' at the wrong time

From John Hennessy, Sarajevo



The men's downhill, perhaps the blue ribbon of the Winter Olympics (with respect to Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean), has again brought embarrassment to the Austrians. Their strength is such that for the second time in succession they have had to drop the world champion. In Lake Placid it was Josef Walcher, recently killed in a skiing accident, who had to give way to Leonhard Stock. The choice proved inspired, for Stock took the gold medal back to Austria.

Now Harti Weirather has had to give way to Anton Steiner. The fourth place in the team was left open until yesterday's final training run, which therefore developed into a match between the two.

Steiner went first of the two and surpassed Urs Raebler's standard time of 1 min 50.64 seconds by a second and three-quarters, as he might expect to do, since Raebler would not have been going flat out. Weirather ran eighth and could never get to grips with Steiner. He was a tenth of a second slower at the first intermediate point, two thirds of a second slower at the second, and a full second behind at the end. For the first time in his career, Steiner reached the finish area. Weirather turned, looked at the

scoreboard, shrugged his shoulders and remarked: "C'est la vie." Later, quite a linguist, he added in fluent English: "We all have our ups and downs and I'm having my down at the wrong time." The situation gains added piquancy from the fact that the two skiers room together in the Olympic village. Steiner naturally has mixed feelings. "Obviously, I'm happy," he said, "but it shouldn't be necessary to keep Harti out." He was reflecting the view of many of the ski world who see a serious injustice in the fact that the strong nations can enter only four racers, along with the likes of Britain and France.

It hardly needs to be added that the Austrians have a formidable team, with Franz Klammer, Olympic champion in 1976, Helmut Hoeltzl and Erwin Rost, winners this year at Cortina (last week) and Schladming respectively, to accompany Steiner. No other country can match that assembly.

Stock has won only that Lake Placid downhill in his career and much the same thing could happen on the course at Mount Bjelasnica. It is short, meeting International Ski Federation rules on vertical drop only by way of a track built to the top of the restaurant at the summit. It is also technically undemanding.

This, indeed, is the hardest race of all for some to win. The principal gladiators the field of competition in these circum-

stances is much wider: for the medal-order skiers this might be their one chance, as with Stock, of leaping to the top.

The form horse is clearly Bill Johnson, of the United States, little known in Europe until this season, but already a winner (at Wengen), and quite the most prominent in training at Mount Bjelasnica. In four training runs he has finished first, second (twice) and eighth. He was second to Steiner yesterday without having to stretch himself in the way the Austrian had to do to gain his place in the race.

The Swiss downhillers have been quiet, by their standards. Their strongest card seems to be held by Pirmin Zurbriggen, a giant slalom specialist. One would not have thought that the downhill course here was sufficiently demanding in technique for his purposes but his training times cannot be ignored.

Steve Podborski, of Canada, can never be ruled out; but it seems to be asking too much of his compatriot, Todd Brooker, to reach his peak after many weeks lost through injury.

The British team will consist of the Bell brothers, Freddie Burton and Connor O'Brien. The younger Bell, Graham, has had a damaged hand but his training runs have shown him to be fit to run the course, if not attack it. At 17 he is a rod in pickle for the future rather than a challenger for the present.



Alpine style: Space walker A. Steiner takes one heck of a big leap in displacing the Austrian world champion

## Into the realms of art and fantasy where beauty and success go hand in hand

From David Miller, Sarajevo

There is no explanation of artistic genius. Millions of television viewers will be watching two bewitching ice dancers from here tomorrow not just because they are physically almost as perfect as kingfishers in flight, but because the seamless elegance of this movement is the creation of a maddest man's mind.

Christopher Dean, who has come off a policeman's beat in Nottingham to achieve stardom in his truest sense, deserves to have carried the British flag yesterday if only in recognition of having lifted his sport into the realm of art. With his enfolding rosebud of a partner he touches the double fantasy of the ordinary person: to be successful and beautiful.

It is, I suspect, the gracefulness which is admired and will be remembered even more than the Olympic triumph which it would seem is theirs for the taking. In their final practice in an almost deserted hall last night, they received the spontaneous applause of British competitors from other events, some of whom were witnessing live for the first time the gulf which exists between the Nottingham pair and most of their rivals.

Bobby Thompson, who was born comparatively poor in Salford, longed with a natural instinct to be a ballet dancer, but yielded to his football following father's unwitting

working class prejudice and accepted the compromise of skating - in the old Derby Street hall. He now coaches not just Wendy Sessions and Stephen Williams, seventh in the recent European Championships, but possibly the closest rivals of Torville and Dean, the outstanding Judy Blumberg and Michael Seibert from the United States. His opinion of Dean's relatively untrained choreography is one of affectionate astonishment.

"It is incomprehensible," Thompson says. "He is to ice dancing what McMillan or Ashton are to ballet. There are people in theatre who might not agree, but I can say it. Jayne and Chris are close friends. When I first saw *Bolero*, I was private I could not applaud; it overwhelmed me. It makes *Barnum* last year seem naive, yet that was a wonderful theatrical performance. *Bolero* is a statement, it is purity. There is nothing that clutters it."

Dean had passing advice on choreography from two experts a few years ago: Gideon Avrami, a ballet Rambert teacher, and Zoltan Nagy, a Hungarian dancer, who showed him how to embrace dancing technique without being effusive. In the original set pattern *Paso Doble* to *Capriccio Espagnol*, we see a matador, the concept of whom concedes nothing in masculinity to those

thundering down the bob-run. "It is sophisticated, not some flamenco travel brochure for the Costa del Sol," Thompson observes. There are some in the sport who consider the performance as exceptional as *Bolero*.

Could either the Americans, whom I considered were unlikely to be third in last year's World Championship in Helsinki, or Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin, or Russia, second then and in Budapest last month, defeat the British pair? Blumberg and Seibert, superb dancers, admit the size of the task. "Because we start from behind," Seibert says, "is not enough to be equal. We have to be so inescapably better that there is no choice."

They arrived here having just retained the US title, after missing five weeks during which Seibert had had a glandular illness. To regain fitness for the Olympics is in itself an achievement, but Judy, a petite skating enthusiast says: "The setback has bonded us. To win, we just have to start at the beginning and be perfect on all three days. The music is the best we have ever had. With *Scheherazade* in the free dance, we have something different, but this is a great direction for ice dancing, we are trying to do the same thing (as Torville and Dean). Seibert, his refined face reminiscent of John Curry's says: "It is a classic, original

piece that nobody's done before. It's a bitch, physically difficult, but it gives us a great feeling."

Abandon the conventional American view of ice dance as adaptation of Broadway zip. Blumberg and Seibert have been bold. There has been too, concern here for several days about any signs of tension in Dean, as well as continuing anxiety about the legality of one or two lifts in which Dean's hand rises above shoulder height.

Laurence Demmy, the English chairman of the International Skating Union's ice dance committee, who has in the past been accused of being technically pro-Soviet, is adamant that the British pair are authentic. We shall be watching the French and Russian judges.

Thompson, a professional since 19 and one who would not contemplate disloyalty to his own skaters, is sure in his own mind, having observed the steady advance of the sport through different phases. "Torville and Dean are on a new plane. I have never encountered such absolute single-mindedness and conviction. I am learning from them. Judy and Michael are beautiful skaters, superior to the Russians, but I have to be truthful and say that Chris and Jayne are better. If I am to be truthful, I can't teach." It is the ultimate fascination of sport that truth in performance does not always prevail.

## A ski hero freed of his nemesis

Sarajevo Karl Schranz, stripped of a gold medal in one Olympics and expelled from another, now finds vindication in the growing affluence of his sport.

"I take some of the credit for what has happened," the former world champion said. "Now skiers are making a lot of money, all getting rich. They come up to me now and say, 'Karl, we are indebted to you. You made it happen.'"

Twelve years ago, Avery Brundage, near the end of his 20-year tenure as president of the International Olympic Committee, threatened to throw Alpine skiing out of the Olympic program because of what he termed commercial abuses. His target was Schranz, the best in the world at the time.

Interviewed in a Sapporo shop at the 1972 Olympics, Schranz lambasted the IOC president. "Brundage is a rich man who has no concern for the athlete," he said. "If he had his way all competitors in the Olympics would be aristocrats, gentlemen who could afford to pay their own way."

Brundage called a press conference and announced Schranz was suspended from the games. Since then, rules on commercialism in Alpine skiing have been loosened.

### Today's events

Cross-country skiing: women's 10km Speed skating: women's 1,500m Skating: men's downhill Ice hockey: Poland v West Germany; USSR v Italy; Sweden v Yugoslavia; Canada v Austria; Finland v Norway; United States v Czechoslovakia. Toboggan: men's singles, women's singles. BCCI: 10.55am-noon (men's downhill); 6.40-7.35pm (round-up)

## W Indies bowlers overwhelm Australia

Sydney (Reuters) - The West Indies gained ample revenge for their defeat by Australia in a World Series Cup qualifying tie on Saturday. They routed the Australians by nine wickets yesterday in the first match of the best-of-three final.

Their battery of fast bowlers set up the victory by dismissing Australia for 160 in 44.4 overs. They made excellent use of a pitch which had sweated under cover overnight.

The Australians were always struggling after losing their opener, Kapil Wessels, with only five on the board. The other Australian opener, Steve Smith, was the only home player to bat with any great conviction, scoring 50 from 81 deliveries.

Joe Garner was again the most economical of the West Indian bowlers, conceding only 19 runs in his nine overs. Malcolm Marshall and Michael Holding also kept a tight rein on the batsmen.

A delayed start because of rain meant that West Indies required 161 runs from 46 overs. That target was never likely to test their batsmen.

Australia's only success came at 29 when Geoff Rackemann trapped Desmond Haynes leg before for 33. Richie Richardson and Larry Gomes then showed the application that had been missing from the batsmen in a stand of 132 which took the West Indies to victory with 17 balls to spare.

The Australian captain, Kim Hughes, later blamed the delay in signing four contracts as one of the factors for his side's poor showing in the day-night game. "The players have a lot on their minds and it wasn't conducive to winning," he said.

A number of Australian players have objected to clauses in their contracts for the tour of the West Indies, which begins later this month, and the dispute remains unresolved. "Hopefully, we will get over our contractual problems (today) in a meeting with the Australian Cricket Board," Hughes said.

The Australian captain also said that he believed his side could still take the final into a deciding match by winning the second game, which will be played in Melbourne on February 14.

Melbourne (Reuters) - Graham Yallop, who sprained ligaments in his right leg during a World Series Cup match, said yesterday that he was not confident about his chances of being fit for the Australian tour. If Yallop is ruled out, his replacement will be another Victorian batsman, Dean Jones.

**AUSTRALIA**  
S. Smith c and b Daniel 50  
K.C. Wessels c Richardson b Holding 10  
R. Richardson not out 10  
D. Jones b Marshall 10  
D. Jones b Marshall 10  
J.M. Marshall c Lloyd b Baptiste 15  
G.F. Lawton c Garner b Baptiste 2  
R.M. Hogg c Garner b Baptiste 2  
T.M. Alderman b Holding 7  
T.M. Alderman not out 4  
Extras (b 5, lb 1, nb 3) 13  
Total (44.4 overs) 160

**WEST INDIES**  
D.L. Hayden b and lb Richardson 13  
R.B. Richardson not out 80  
R.A. Gomes b and lb Daniel 10  
Extras (b 3, lb 14, w 1, nb 4) 18  
Total (1 wk, 43.1 overs) 161

**FALL OF WICKETS:** 1-29, 2-38, 3-38, 4-82, 5-83, 6-119, 7-127, 8-129, 9-132.  
10-132, 11-132, 12-132, 13-132, 14-132, 15-132, 16-132, 17-132, 18-132, 19-132, 20-132, 21-132, 22-132, 23-132, 24-132, 25-132, 26-132, 27-132, 28-132, 29-132, 30-132, 31-132, 32-132, 33-132, 34-132, 35-132, 36-132, 37-132, 38-132, 39-132, 40-132, 41-132, 42-132, 43-132, 44-132, 45-132, 46-132, 47-132, 48-132, 49-132, 50-132, 51-132, 52-132, 53-132, 54-132, 55-132, 56-132, 57-132, 58-132, 59-132, 60-132, 61-132, 62-132, 63-132, 64-132, 65-132, 66-132, 67-132, 68-132, 69-132, 70-132, 71-132, 72-132, 73-132, 74-132, 75-132, 76-132, 77-132, 78-132, 79-132, 80-132, 81-132, 82-132, 83-132, 84-132, 85-132, 86-132, 87-132, 88-132, 89-132, 90-132, 91-132, 92-132, 93-132, 94-132, 95-132, 96-132, 97-132, 98-132, 99-132, 100-132, 101-132, 102-132, 103-132, 104-132, 105-132, 106-132, 107-132, 108-132, 109-132, 110-132, 111-132, 112-132, 113-132, 114-132, 115-132, 116-132, 117-132, 118-132, 119-132, 120-132, 121-132, 122-132, 123-132, 124-132, 125-132, 126-132, 127-132, 128-132, 129-132, 130-132, 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## Public Appointments

## Chief Executive

West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council

The West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council, based in Wakefield and providing county-wide services to a population of some 2 million people over an area of almost 800 square miles, is seeking a Chief Executive to succeed Mr. Rodney Brooke.

The Chief Executive's main priorities are to co-ordinate policy advice to the Council and ensure the implementation of its decisions; to lead the Officer Management Team and be accountable through them for the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the authority; and to act as advocate of the Council and play a major role in presenting its policies to the public and others.

The appointment may, if

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Salary £34,704 rising to £37,539; car allowance, relocation assistance, etc.

Please write — in confidence — with full career details to D.A. Ravenscroft at Bull, Holmes (Management) Limited, 90 Albert Square, Manchester M2 5PE. For further information or a preliminary discussion telephone 061-832 9876.

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Salary on scale starting ground £8-£10,000 according to experience.

Further details available on request.

Applications by letter and detailed C.V. to be sent to:

Dorothy Williams, IVS, 53 Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 5YL. Telephone: (0533) 541982.

Closing date: 20th February 1984.

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LIBRARY

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Further particulars are available from The Chairman, History Faculty Library Committee, History Faculty Library, Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3BS, to whom applications should be sent not later than 13 February 1984.

University of Aberdeen  
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL  
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Salary on Grade IV of the national salary scale for administrative staff (minimum £17,275 per annum).

Further particulars and forms of application from The Secretary, The University, Aberdeen, with whom applications (two copies) should be lodged by 29 February 1984.

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Appointment

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Die deutsche Texte ins Englische übersetzen. Der Umfang der Arbeit beträgt alle 2 Monate zwischen 70 und 75 Seiten. Jede Seite hat rund 250 Wörter. Die Texte sind aus dem Deutschen ins Englische zu übersetzen. Die Übersetzungen sind für die deutsche Regierung bestimmt. Die Übersetzungen sind für die deutsche Regierung bestimmt. Die Übersetzungen sind für die deutsche Regierung bestimmt.

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Successful applicants are likely to be graduates with an accounting qualification or MBA, aged between 26-35.

If you enjoy working with people, communicating and making things happen, please write in confidence quoting reference MC3 to John Fielden at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Management Consultants, 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

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## General Appointments

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Telephone 01-283 6279 quoting ref: 014/T Reed Executive Selection Limited, 192 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4NR.

London Birmingham Manchester Leeds

THE TRUSTEES of the Chelsea Physic Garden are seeking a person to assist in the running of this important historical garden and to be responsible for the planning and development of the garden. Applicants will be required to have a sound botanical and plant knowledge and to be able to liaise with the garden's staff and visitors. The post is full time and involves a high level of responsibility. Details of the post may be obtained from the Director, Chelsea Physic Garden, 12, Old Church Lane, Chelsea, London SW3 4HS. Applications should be sent to the Director, Chelsea Physic Garden, 12, Old Church Lane, Chelsea, London SW3 4HS. The closing date for applications is 28th February 1984.

LEISURE PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. The Leisure Equipment Industry requires a Sales Manager for our Commercial Division, selling to local authorities, schools, etc. Also Sales Representatives and Sales Office. Excellent prospects. Write to: Leisure Products, 31, St. Stephens Terrace, London SW8 1JL. Tel: 01-874 7285.

PUBLISHERS need freelance research writers for a 1 month project to carry out a survey of the needs of industrial companies. The project involves interviewing and writing up the results of the survey. There is a possibility of some home visits and a small honorarium. Further information gained from: The Research Institute, 17, St. Stephens Terrace, London SW8 1JL. Tel: 01-874 7285.

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You should be a good judge of people, have the confidence to project your personality in a marketing role and be a competent administrator. You will need the mental agility to cope with a variety of tasks, and will have the opportunity to become really involved at a senior level as the company grows.

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Applications in handwriting explaining how your experience meets our requirements to Paul M Griffin, 13/15 Davies Street, London W1.

Interviews by appointment will be held in London.

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# General Appointments

The Times guide to career development

## The non-executive director role

Appointment of an employee to the board of a company usually means more money, extra prestige and a wider range of fringe benefits - but what is it worth in corporate power and influence? In the extreme, but by no means uncommon, case of becoming a director is about as meaningful as getting one of the lesser birthday honours.

Even at best, there is an inherent contradiction in the status of being simultaneously an employee and a director of a company. Because some boardroom colleagues will be one's functional superiors, it will be hard to have what may, on occasion, be a tough discussion about matters of policy. Yet that is what board meetings are supposed to be about. They are also supposed to be about the introduction of new ideas; and it is difficult for new ideas to be aired in a circle of people who see a great deal of each other and possibly not enough of the outside world.

To prevent this happening, there is a growing practice of appointing non-executive directors: according to a survey by headhunters Korn Ferry International, some 90 per cent of the larger UK companies have at least one on the board.

The term "non-executive" might suggest a person without real responsibilities - the sort of noble cipher that still adorns the letterheads of some of the more old-fashioned companies. Nowadays, though, such a person is the exception. Non-executives have real duties, though not of a direct managerial nature. They do not, for example, give orders to employees. So what do they do and what sort of people get appointed?

A typical example of the new breed is Clive Carr, who, as well as being executive chairman of the Park Lane Hotel, London, is also a non-executive director of a number of companies of a totally different kind. One of them is in publishing - an industry where he has strong family connections. Another is in a first division football club, where he can combine his wide administrative experience with his interest in sport: he was a distinguished all-round athlete in his younger days.

He says that the way a football club

**Godfrey Golzen**  
describes a system  
which enhances the  
value of employees or  
a company's board

is run is an extreme example of non-executive directorship in action. "You have a manager who has responsibility for achievement, just like a company executive. Behind him you have what is often an entirely non-executive board. They don't tell the players how to play, but they do create a financial climate that enables the manager to get on with the job of meeting an agreed set of objectives."

It is common for non-executives to be in a minority of two or three on a board. Though there is nothing mandatory about numbers or responsibilities, it is generally understood that they must be able to contribute particular expertise or general experience not possessed by the board's full-time members. Non-executive directors are quite often appointed by banks, or large minority shareholders, to widen a company's horizons or to undertake specific tasks. The most common task is to sit on an audit committee to institute or review financial controls. The role of a non-executive director then resembles that of a part-time consultant.

More often, though, the initiative comes from the chairman. Clive Carr points out that there are matters that a chief executive may want to discuss with colleagues who have a less direct involvement with his company. "There are things I would not want to broach prematurely - acquisitions, for instance," he says. Another issue that arises in large companies is the performance of senior executives; it helps enormously to get a second opinion. Then there is the question of one's own salary - "this is something you prefer to discuss with someone quite independent."

Independence, of course, is an essential attribute of the non-executive role. For this reason the old-style "friends of the chairman's family" approach to the appointment of non-executive directors is not likely to produce effective results.

No rules on fees are laid down. They range between a few hundred pounds to as much as £10,000 a year, depending on the company, and, of course, on the amount of work involved. Though non-executive duties usually take up no more than a couple of days a month, one recent appointee complained that before each monthly meeting he was expected to master a pile of financial reports the size of a doorstop. That would be unusual, but the duties certainly involve some homework and also any special assignments that arise beyond mere board attendance.

Although a non-executive director is not extremely well paid, considerably more people than there are vacancies look for appointments. Requests to serve usually come through recommendation, Carr says. "Sometimes - though not as yet often - headhunters are brought in. More often, a chairman seeks suitable names from his friends and other contacts. A bank or an institution may sound out contacts among their clients." Companies are increasingly seconding promising executives to non-executive directorships in non-competitive concerns, so as to give them - and obtain through them - wider perspectives.

Though the situation somewhat corresponds to the old stage casting director's remark, "Don't ring us, we'll ring you," you can put your name forward yourself to one of the two bodies that act as clearing houses, the Institute of Directors, and PRO NED (Promotion of Non-Executive Directors, 30 Cursitor Street, London EC4A 3DS). Either will send you a form on which an applicant is asked to fill out details of his experience and specific contributions he could make. Those considered suitable would be called in for a personal meeting and their name kept on file.

PRO NED is sponsored by the Bank of England, the Confederation of British Industry and other prestigious bodies. The best chance of a non-executive appointment, however, is when one's name is put forward by an influential third party. This is one area where who one knows is as important as what one knows.

## MARKETPLACE

Almost 2,500,000 vacancies flowed into JobCentres last year, an increase of 13 per cent on 1982. As these represent only one third of the total market, there were probably more than six and a half million vacancies.

The volume of recruitment advertising in the "quality" national newspapers increased by more than 21 per cent, indicating a faster rate of recovery in the demand for management, professional and technical staff. In contrast, the "popular" daily newspapers showed a 5 per cent fall in volume.

The rate of recovery is accelerating. In December, JobCentre vacancies increased by almost 22 per cent on the

**Philip Schofield looks**  
at job vacancies

year before and advertising in the "quality" press was up by over 40 per cent.

The number of vacancies advertised on PER's weekly *Executive Post* in 1983 was 27,153 - almost 29 per cent up on 1982. However, some of these arose under the community programmes, which are now tailing off.

The recovery in the recruitment market seems set to continue through 1984. A survey of 1,260 leading employers, collectively representing

more than three million staff, shows that job prospects in the first quarter of this year are more favourable than during any first quarter of the last four years. The survey, conducted by Manpower Ltd, states that more employers expect to increase staff than are forecasting job losses. Most economic forecasters are now predicting a continuing, if slow, recovery.

Employers are clearly having growing difficulty in filling many types of vacancy. It is significant that the flow of vacancies into JobCentres was higher than the outflow in 1983. Thus the average number of unfilled vacancies during 1983 was over 30 per cent up on 1982.

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Within a few months, you can expect to be handling your own case work. After 3 years you will be managing a sizeable team of staff - and in due course you should be running your own tax district.

Qualifications: Under 32 and a degree with at least second class honours or an acceptable equivalent qualification. Final Year Students may apply. Starting salary £5785-£7980 according to experience. You should be earning £6780 after 2 years and £12395 3 years later. Within 11 years you could be on a salary scale rising to £20790. In another 5 years you could be on a scale rising to £23155. Beyond this there are opportunities for further promotion to the most senior grades in the Civil Service. SALARIES HIGHER IN LONDON. Training can usually begin at an office in the area of your choice. To find out more and for an application form write to Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 69551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: A/320/131.

## HMS Belfast Deputy Keeper

HMS Belfast, moored at Symon's Wharf on the River Thames opposite the Tower of London, is an integral part of the Imperial War Museum and is open to visitors throughout the year.

The Deputy Keeper is responsible to the Keeper for the day-to-day running of the ship including all aspects of security, her presentation to the public, and for the management and administration of the ship's staff of 47. Other responsibilities include the general appearance of HMS Belfast; the upkeep and improvement of exhibitions and displays on board; liaison with outside agencies and authorities regarding the use of the ship; the berthing of, and liaison with, visiting warships and merchant ships alongside, and conformity with appropriate RN ceremonial procedures.

Candidates who should normally have served as officers on the General or Special Duties Lists of the Royal Navy must have a general knowledge of the arrangement, weapons and machinery of ships of the type and period to which HMS Belfast belongs. A thorough knowledge of the traditions, procedures and customs of the Royal Navy together with general knowledge of ship husbandry principles is essential. Some knowledge of relevant administrative procedures will be advantageous.

Salary as Museum Officer Grade D within the range £10,720-£13,765 according to qualifications and experience. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 2 March 1984) write to: Civil Service Commission, Alconon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: C(4)382/1.

Imperial War Museum

## Director Engineering Industry Training Board

The EITB - largest of the Industrial Training Boards established by the 1964 Act - exists to serve the varied training needs of the engineering industry, comprising 22,000 establishments employing over 2 million people.

The Director advises and guides the Board in the formulation of policies and objectives and is accountable for their achievement, leading and directing an organisation with an annual expenditure budget of £58m. Collaboration and communication with the Industry, Government ministries and agencies and other bodies and institutions concerned are important aspects.

Candidates should have a degree or professional qualification and be aged between 40 and 50. Their careers must provide evidence of high managerial, administrative and intellectual competence, within some organisations of substance.

Salary negotiable, plus car and other benefits. Location Watford.

Please send relevant details - in confidence - to: The Chairman, Engineering Industry Training Board, St. Martin's House, 140 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9LN.

**EITB**

## Site Construction Manager

A site construction manager is required to act as an American client's representative on site during the construction of a new 55,000 sq. ft. technical support and distribution building at Swindon Wiltshire, start May 1984.

The applicant should have full qualifications and practical experience in mechanical and electrical engineering, together with sound working knowledge of site building construction. Ability will also have to be shown in writing and detailed progress reports during 12 month contract period.

Salary by negotiation but up to £15,000 Sterling.

Please write with full details of experience to:  
**JOLLY AND MILLARD ARCHITECTS**  
10 DEVIZES ROAD, SWINDON, WILTSHIRE SN1 4BH  
or TELEPHONE (0793) 485205

## Executive Search/Recruitment Consultant

During eight years of specialisation in executive search and selection within the investment sector, we have established a strong following from Stockbroking and institutional clients, whom we advise on many issues.

We seek an additional consultant to help maintain our high standards of service and assist further growth. The person who joins us will probably be aged 24 to 32 with a good track record in Stockbroking, institutional investment or Recruitment. Personal qualities, however, are just as important: discretion, confidence, perseverance, enthusiasm, determination plus the ability to work well, both as an individual and as part of a team. If you then see our outgoings prospects and feel you would like to play an important role in the further development of our young but professional company, you will progress entirely on your own merits and be rewarded accordingly.

Please contact Stephen Embleton or Elizabeth Evans, who will treat all enquiries in the strictest of confidence.

**Stephens Associates**  
International Recruitment Consultants  
44 Carter Lane, London EC4V 3EL. 01-234 7007

Hong Kong and London's largest currency exchange dealers require a

### RETAIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

to be responsible for their 16 plus branch retail operations, which are open 16 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, in the West End of London.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate with other qualifications and experience: (1) bottom line responsibility in a fast moving, preferably related, business; (2) success in maintaining and accelerating the momentum and pace of the going business and expanding it - both profitably; (3) skill in men management and direct responsibility for staff; (4) successful presentation of the business to shareholders, institutions and the press; (5) the ability to thrive and survive in a tight margin, highly competitive and very disciplined business; (6) willingness to travel and participate in overseas expansion.

Applications in handwriting to Paul M Griffin, 13/15 Davies Street, London, W1. Applications of over two pages or from employment agencies will not be considered.

### A new career in '84

A HIGH INCOME You will earn over £12,000 in your first year with us if you meet basic targets. Our better consultants earn over £18,000 p.a.

SECURITY Working for part of £1.8 billion financial services group, you will be on a base of £2,000 (negotiable) and based in LONDON, LEEDS, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER or BIRMINGHAM.

If you are aged 22 and over, positive, hardworking and well spoken.

## HEAD OF RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES, TELEVISION

Responsible to the Head of Religious Broadcasting (Dr. Colin Morris) for the leadership and administration of Religious Programmes Department, Television and for supervising a comprehensive output which includes "Worship", "Songs of Praise" and various documentary strands. Also responsible to the Director of Programmes, Television for the annual Programme Offers, the development of existing strands, the initiation of new programmes, and for the economic use of resources and deployment of staff.

Proven ability to manage at a senior level; an informed understanding of the contemporary religious situation and a knowledge of religious broadcasting policy are essential. Experience of television production is desirable.

Salary according to qualifications and experience. Based West London. Relocation expenses considered.

Contact us immediately for application form (quote ref. 2118/T and enclose s.a.e.) BBC Appointments, London W1A 1AA. Tel. 01-580 3334.

We are an Equal Opportunities employer

**BBCtv**

## National Director Fund Raising Charity

London £18,000-£20,000

We seek a National Director for a recently established fund-raising charity, affiliated to one of the world's largest child care organisations. The charity has already launched its first appeal with highly encouraging results. A non-executive board of directors has been appointed.

The successful candidate will take overall responsibility for the management and control of what is currently a small national office.

Candidates, ideally aged 40-55, should demonstrate experience of office management and financial responsibility. An international perspective is essential, and past involvement, full-time or

voluntary, with a recognised charity would be a great advantage. Personal qualities should include the ability to represent the charity at public functions. Those interested in this challenging and potentially extremely satisfying appointment should write in confidence, quoting reference 4993/T and enclosing career details, to N.P. Halsey, Executive Selection Division, Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co., 165 Queen Victoria Street, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

**PEAT MARWICK**

### BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON

ROYAL PAVILION ART GALLERY & MUSEUMS

Applications are invited for the post of Exhibitions Officer. Applicants should be graduates of the Diploma of the Museum Association and/or experience in an Art Gallery or Museum. Candidates will be interviewed on 15/16/17 February 1984. The salary scale is £6,650/£7,127.15 to £9,660 with a starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

Further details may be obtained from the Director, Royal Pavilions, Brighton, BN1 1UE, to whom written applications, giving full details together with names and addresses of two referees, should be sent by 20 February 1984.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE ENGINEERS

Three excellent opportunities have arisen for science based honours graduates to work with The Technology Development Team at Davy McKee on applied research and development projects.

Relevant degree disciplines could include engineering science, mechanical/electrical/electronic engineering, Physics, Mathematics. Candidates with industrial experience would be particularly welcome, but this is not essential.

This work is an exciting new venture that has the full resource support of the Dorset Institute of Higher Education which will provide academic and computing back-up throughout the scheme.

These appointments are available now for a two year term with the prospect of an ongoing appointment with "Davy McKee" to follow. Commencing salary will be not less than £7,215 p.a. and could be higher depending upon qualifications and experience. To apply please write as soon as possible with full CV's or phone for application form and details to Training and Employment Manager, Davy McKee (Poole) Ltd, 551/553 Wallisdown Road, Poole, Dorset, BH12 5AG. Telephone: Bournemouth (0202) 51221.

## FIELD SUPERVISOR

Young graduate (21-24) required in March for leading camping/caravanning holiday tour operator, providing holidays in Europe.

Experience of this industry an advantage but not essential. Driving licence necessary. Fluency in French required. Knowledge of German, Italian or Spanish would be an advantage. Must be prepared to spend approximately 10 months per year abroad. Write for an application form to:

**Euro Camp**  
Miss K. Holden, Dept. T1  
Eurocamp Travel Ltd.,  
Edmondson House,  
Tatton Street, Knutsford,  
Cheshire WA16 6BG.

## The Federation of British Artists

**FINANCE & GENERAL MANAGER**  
Requires a  
with an appreciation of the visual arts. Candidates should have experience in the disciplines of Finance and General Management with some experience of Art Galleries and/or the Art Market desirable. Salary negotiable from £15,000. All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and immediately acknowledged.

Applications with curriculum vitae to:

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**APPOINTMENTS**

**Part-Time  
Salesman/Telephone  
for the Head Office of  
UK Film Distributors  
Soho Square, W1**

Candidates should be personable,  
groomed, with a pleasant  
phone manner, and of the latest  
"fashion" of the West  
MURKIN SYSTEM.  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Salary circa  
£500.  
Appointments contact Janet  
Higgs on 07-437 7768.

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Grand pianos NOW ON! Rents for  
Year from £100.00. Tel: 01-267 7674.  
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**WOLFOOD BARN conversion:**  
Burford, Devon; corrugated  
iron roof 27' x 60'; 6/8" deep  
corrugations. £13,000. - Burford  
Tel. 01993 6294

**PROPERTY WANTED**

**WITH CARDLE GROVES**

urgently seek 2 Shadroom  
gates from N180-E480 p/w for  
of our waiting applicants. If  
not already accepted no  
and you have a property to

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**  
**ROCKWOOD WILLIAMS & CO**  
of the County of York, in the State of New York, do hereby certify that on the 1st day of December, 1983, in a proceeding between Mr. David R. Rockwood and Mr. Thomas A. Rockwood, the style of **Rockwood Williams & Co** and **Conservancy, Sd. Chancery**, the said **Rockwood Williams & Co** has been dissolved. Mr. David R. Rockwood is now the sole proprietor of **Rockwood Williams, Pros.** from the same address.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Company No 592827  
Registered in England  
members of the Companies Act  
from 1981 and in the register  
of **MUSIC LIMITED**, London

[illegible][illegible]

3250 North 25th St. - Grand Arc, Ariz.  
 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 264

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**'s Secret Thriller.**

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1971) using a Shimadzu 1010 spectrophotometer. The concentration of chlorophyll was expressed in mg g<sup>-1</sup> of dry weight.







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**Flag-bearer:** Christopher Dean, favourite to win the Olympic ice dance title with Jayne Torvill, leads the British team

**Games reports, page 22**

**Flame-bearer: A Yugoslav lights the Olympic torch**

**the -lock is carried by a virus that causes cancer in birds**

amascus. he said.

**MOON TODAY** Pressure is shown in millibars. **FRONTS** Warm Cold Occluded  
Greenish are air advancing west!

**D**over, English Channel (E): Wind NW strong decreasing moderate; sea very rough decreasing moderate. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind NW backing SW moderate or fresh; sea light or moderate.

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Sun rises:	Sun sets:
7.27 am	5.03 pm
Moon rises:	Moon sets:
12.01 am	10.20 am

[illegible]

**HIGHEST AND LOWEST**

Sunday: Highest day temperature 11C  
F; lowest day temperature 4C. Edinburgh,  
Glasgow and Galloway 3C (37F); highest  
night temperature 0.2C; lowest sunshine:  
Edinburgh, Scarborough 0.0h.

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